HISTORY
OF
ROWE, MASSACHUSETTS

PERCY WHITING BROWN

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HISTORY

OF

ROWE, MASSACHUSETTS

By

PERCY WHITING BROWN

Charter Life Member Rowe Historical Society
Member of Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association
Member (Ex-President) of Concord Antiquarian Society
Member of Bostonian Society
Corresponding Member of Fitchburg Historical Society
Member of The Society of Mayflower Descendants
Member of The Society of Colonial Wars
Member of The Sons of the Revolution

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INTRODUCTION

For many years the writer has had a great love for the Rowe hills, and in his many walks and drives has accumulated items of interest both historical and personal. The sight of an old cellar-hole* with its pink fire-weed and neighboring lilac bush has always held a solemn fascination, and has brought up pictures of a once happy family.

> "Near younder thorn, that lifts its head on high,
> Where once the sign-post caught the passing eye,
> Low lies that house where nut-brown draughts inspired,
> Where gray-beard mirth, and smiling toil retired,
> Where village statesmen talk'd with looks profound,
> And news much older than their ale went round."

Then too, the roads became a subject for study: how the earliest highways were laid out in straight lines with little regard for hill summits, and how an early philospher fetched a kettle to town meeting to prove that the distance around a hill was no greater than over it.

Some research work in the Registry of Deeds at Greenfield, which included copying and collating 150 deeds of the first settlers, resulted in a graphic picture of the early lay-out of the community; and the accuracy of putting together this picture-puzzle was attested by comparing the boundary lines in these deeds with the line-walls of today. This work was a pleasant one, and yielded good dividends. For example, we found in the town records that a cross-road was discontinued over a century ago, and one of the old deeds showed the owner of a farm on that cross-road to have been Joseph Steel, who we know was implicated in Shay's Insurrection in 1786. Then an afternoon's walk through the woods, and underbrush to the place revealed a few ancient apple trees still hanging onto life, and a tangle of cinnamon roses hiding a small cellar-hole.

*There are over 60 cellar-holes to be seen in Rowe.

The history of the town is simply told. Only three years after the last Indian raid (1759) on the frontiers of Massachusetts, a land speculator (who happened to be a Berkshire minister without a parish), purchased one of the few remaining tracts of state land, and moved his family to a newly constructed house of split planks in the middle of the four-square-mile parallelogram. He offered his lands at a low price; but new settlers were slow to come, and by 1770, there were but eight families here including his own. The next five years witnessed a larger influx, and by the outbreak of the Revolution there were 28 families. However, by 1784, there were only nine houses, the rest being log-huts; yet there were two mills operated by waterpower, and a goodly number of livestock. With 88 polls, with roads laid out, and with annual appropriations for gospel and schools, the people were ready for incorporation as a town. The growth thenceforward was steady and sure, until the period between 1830 and 1850. Since then, the lure of the West and the rise of manufacturing in the valley mill-towns, have constantly challenged the ambitious young men and women, and the census figures record a continuous decline since the middle of the last century.

The hardships of the early days, the squabbles over the location of the meeting-house (which was a most important factor in the life of our ancesters), and over the seating of the members, the changing of ministers, the coming of the railroad, the introduction of labor-reducing agricultural implements, all these and many other items go toward making the story of a New England hill-town.

This History was first published in 1922 by the author. Additional items were collected in subsequent years, and in 1935 a second and larger edition was published by the author for the 150th anniversary of the town. Both editions have long been out of print. At the annual town meeting in January 1958 it was voted that the sum of $1500 be appropriated to publish a third edition and the copies be sold

at cost by the Rowe Town Library and the receipts returned to the General Treasury. Accordingly, the author has made revisions and additions to the History down to date.

The 1950's witnessed a radical change in affairs, partly as a result of the prosperity of the Glassine Company and the resultant cash wages to a number of Rowe citizens. Then in 1955 came the announcement of the proposed atomic energy plant to cost at least 35 million. Sensing the coming changes, the town fathers obtained the adoption of a comprehensive set of By-Laws. In December 1955, the author of this history, a long-time summer resident, gave to the town most of his real estate, comprising some 485 acres, to be maintained as a Town Forest, Public Park and Recreation Area, which included Pelham Lake and Dam, most of Adams Mountain, and the Mill Pond in the village.

Grateful acknowledgement is hereby made to the Board of Selectmen for their cooperation and to the members of the Rowe Historical Society for assistance in the publication of this third edition of the history.

The author has drawn freely from the following sources:—

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"Rocky Knoll,"

Rowe, 1958

PERCY W. BROWN

NB: The author, Percy W. Brown, passed away in December of 1958 before completing this third revision of his "History of Rowe".

The Rowe Historical Society has undertaken to make the revisions and additions which Mr. Brown had indicated in his notes and manuscripts. This edition is published for the 175th Anniversary of the town which will be celebrated on "Old Home Day", July 9, 1960. On that day a Memorial Tablet at Pelham Lake Park will be dedicated to Mr. Brown acknowledging his unselfish devotion to Rowe.

July 1, 1960 ROWE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

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PERCY WHITING BROWN
1887 - 1958

Rarely does a town have occasion to pay tribute to a person who never held a town office, who was never even a voter, but who has contributed much to the town's betterment. It is very appropriate, however, that we acknowledge the great contributions made to the Town of Rowe by Percy Whiting Brown.

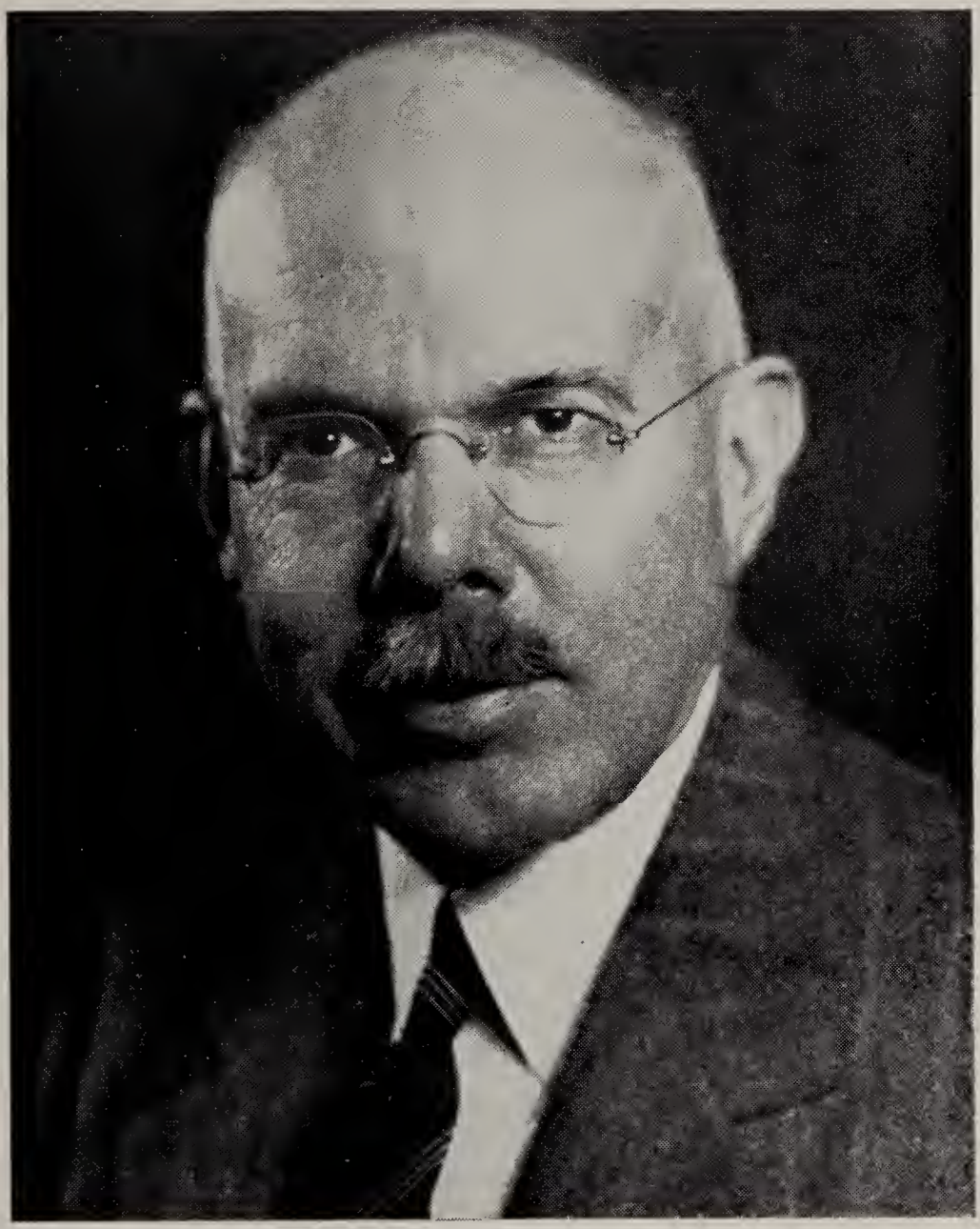
On few communities has the career of a single man made such a deep and lasting impression as that of Percy Brown on our town. Mr. Brown first visited Rowe as a young man with his parents, the late Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Brown of Concord. His affection for and interest in the town never waned and even after 1923 when his business took him to Cleveland, Ohio he became practically a week-end commuter to Rowe during the summer months.

Many old-timers will recall those summers he spent here cruising the highways and byways cramped in a Model "T" Ford examining old cellar holes, enjoying every view, and gathering data for his "History of Rowe". Percy Brown's "History" has given the newcomers a deep insight into the early days of the town, its folklore and legends, and its heritage. Rowe will always be indebted for the countless hours he spent in compiling the details of our town's past. To many people, both now and in future generations, the name of Percy Brown will be linked with happy hours spent at Pelham Lake Park.

Probably Mr. Brown's earliest contribution to the townspeople of Rowe was the use of a look-out tower he had erected on the summit of Mt. Adams in the late 1920's. In 1927 he acquired the property of the former Foliated Talc Company including Pelham Lake, and in subsequent purchases acquired land east and north of the lake. Shortly after his acquisition of the lake property he provided necessary repairs to the dam which had been condemned by the State. The condemnation had resulted in draining the lake but with repairs completed it was again flooded and Mr. Brown encouraged its use for bathing, boating and fishing but he refused to permit the spoiling of its natural beauty by commercial development. Since the townspeople, their guests and residents of neighboring communities had regarded the Lake as a public playground for nearly thirty years, the gift of this property to the townspeople of Rowe may not be fully appreciated for years to come. In 1955 Percy Brown, in presenting Pelham Lake and surrounding land to the townspeople, established a game sanctuary and town forest and park to be held in trust for future generations.

Percy Whiting Brown was 71 years of age when he died on December 8, 1958. He had spent 53 years in close association with Rowe and with its people. We will long remember him as a fine gentleman and a true friend.

— Rowe Annual Report — 1958



PERCY WHITING BROWN

The Village, Looking South

The Village, Looking North
On the left B. T. Henry's Store and Union Hall

Old Methodist Church and East Cemetery

Unitarian Church at Old Center

The Village in 1899 Showing Henry's Store, Town Hall, Union Hall and Satinet Factory in the background.

Satinet Factory

Ford Hall at the Old Center

Village Blacksmith Shop — 1910
owned by John Richards near the Mill Pond Dam

Massachusetts Talc Mine

Davis Mine Cave-In

Davis Mine — Shaft #3

Hoosac Tunnel & Wilmington Railroad

Town Pound

Sherman Station on Deerfield River

Rowe Hills, Looking North

Thomas Scott's Boot and Shoe Factory — 1900
at foot of Browning Hill on Pelham Brook

Rowe Town Library

Highway Garage and Fire Station — 1959

Rev. Preserved Smith Chapel — 1959

Community Baptist Church — 1959

The Village Store — 1959

Pelham Lake Park Beach

Rowe Village School

1959 Old Home Day Parade

The Hills of Rowe, Looking Southwest

Yankee Atomic Electric Company nearing completion

HISTORY OF ROWE, MASSACHUSETTS

CHAPTER I.

TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION

"For the Country it is as well watered as any land under the Sunne."
Wood's New England Prospect.

The territory that comprises the town of Rowe originally belonged to Hampshire County,* and so remained until 1811, when it was transferred to the County of Franklin, then incorporated. It is situated in the northwestern part, twenty-two miles from Greenfield, the County seat.

The land is distinctly rugged and mountainous. The Green Mountains of Vermont extend southerly into Massachusetts dividing into two parallel ridges called the Taconic and the Hoosac Mountains. The Taconic ridge divides the water-shed of the Housatonic from that of the Hudson, and the most conspicuous peak is Greylock. The Hoosac ridge divides the Connecticut water-shed from the waters of the Hoosac and Housatonic and the chief elevations are Spruce Hill in Adams and Clarksburg Mountain. The gneissic rocks of the Hoosac range extend to the east of Rowe, and we may properly call the Rowe hills part of the Hoosac Mountains.

The territory purchased in 1762 by Rev. Cornelius Jones was in form a parallelogram, of which the northern boundary formed the Province Line. The northern boundary of Massachusetts was stated to be "a curved line pursuing the course of the Merrimack River at three miles distance on the north side thereof, beginning at the Atlantic Ocean and ending at a point due north of Pawtucket Falls (now Lowell), and a straight course drawn from thence due west." In 1741 Richard Hazen, a surveyor of Haverhill, ran the line; but the line "due west" was in fact about 1° 45′ north of due west, so that about one-third of the present township of Rowe

*The western part of the unincorporated tract called Zoar was formerly in Berkshire County.

would otherwise have fallen to New Hampshire and later to Vermont. This is still called "Hazen's Line." The western boundary of this parallelogram included a fourth part of the present town of Monroe, or some 1500 acres, approximately the territory between the Deerfield River and a line drawn nearly north and south (S.2°E.) through a point fifty rods east of Monroe Four Corners. The eastern boundary was two hundred rods west of the present one; while the southern boundary was at least three hundred rods north of the mouth of Steel Brook.

When the town was incorporated February 9, 1785, there were added two hundred rods on the east and south, and an irregular tract on the southwestern corner to include the Fulham Grant, which roughly today represents the Veber and two Cressy farms. In 1838 (April 2) the unincorporated tract called Zoar was divided; the eastern portion was given to Charlemont and the western portion, from Florida Bridge around the Great Bend, to Rowe. In 1822 the portion west of the Deerfield River was set off as a part of the newly incorporated town of Monroe.* (See Appendix A.)

The country at the time of the first clearing in 1744 was practically covered with primeval forests. Many of the old valley towns owe their beginnings to the absence of trees which resulted from the annual burnings by the Indians. But the savages seldom penetrated the upland forests of Rowe,** and the region was left to the haunts of wolves, bears, deer and smaller animals. A petition to the Legislature in March 1780 sets forth "that the inhabitants of the western counties were greatly distressed by reason of the destruction of the sheep and neat cattle by wolves, catamounts, and wild cats, which are numerous in some parts of said counties."

*The Town Report for 1957 shows a total of 14,653 acres assessed in Rowe.

**One or two arrow-heads have been ploughed up; and the writer has a stone knife, the gift of the finder, F. A. Browning.

MOUNTAINS

Adams Mountain. At first this was called "the south mountain," but it was called Adams Mountain as early as 1797. This distinguishing feature of the town is in the southern part and rises to an altitude of 2140 feet above sea level. It heads a long ridge which culminates in Coon Hill, 1623 feet high, in Zoar. The Vermont line crosses Streeter Hill at an altitude of 2100 feet. The old road to Readsboro north from the old center of the town passes to the east of elevations 2,034, 1,967 and 1,937 feet respectively. Pulpit Rock, a colossal pulpit formed by the cleavage of a cliff, is 900 feet above the Deerfield River in the western part of the town, and is flanked by elevations of 1806 feet and 1951 feet. The entire west slope is precipitous and was described in the crude map of 1779 as a "steep mountain." In only two places on this slope has the art of man been able to maintain roads; namely the road down to Monroe Bridge, and the road from the "Cressy Neighborhood" down to Hoosac Tunnel. In 1809 a road was established from the Granger place (n.w. of Truesdell-Hazelton farm) which zig-zagged down to the Deerfield, crossing by a ford, and following Dunbar Brook to the west line of Rowe.

STREAMS AND MILL-SEATS

Deerfield River. This chief tributary of the Connecticut River rises in southern Vermont, and enters Massachusetts in a southerly direction, then bears to the southwest forming the western boundary of Rowe. At the eastern portal of Hoosac Tunnel it makes a great bend to the southeast, forming the southern boundary of Rowe until it reaches the abutments of the old Florida Bridge. Between Wilmington, Vt. and its junction with the Connecticut at Greenfield, the Deerfield falls over 1800 feet, of which well over half is utilized for power. In 1886 James Ramage of Holyoke erected a dam at Monroe Bridge and built a plant for the manufacture of pulp and manila paper, used chiefly for

boxes. Operations were begun December 9, 1887. A substantial brick plant later used as a warehouse is located on the Rowe side. In 1913 the property was sold to the New England Power Company and a long canal was built to convey the water of the Deerfield to a hydro-electric power plant (No. 5) three miles down the river on the Florida side. The pulp and paper plants were sold to W. G. Shortess of New York, a well-known paper manufacturer, and electric power was purchased of the New England Power System. The Deerfield Glassine Co., incorporated in 1927, acquired the property and manufactures glassine paper. In Dec. 1930, C. N. Stoddard was appointed equity receiver and in Feb. 1935 a reorganization was approved under the Corporate Bankruptcy Act. Since then the company has prospered in the manufacture of glassine, a thin, tough, glazed paper nearly transparent, used for envelope windows, wrapping candy and other packaged goods. In 1920 these plants were considerably enlarged at a cost of some $250,000. In the early sixties the Deerfield was dammed a short distance above the Great Bend and a fall of thirty feet was obtained. Compressed air was thus supplied for the drills used in boring the Tunnel and was first brought into use in June 1866.

Pelham Brook. This considerable stream rises on the southwestern slopes of Streeter Hill, flows southerly for four and one-half miles to the confluence with the Deerfield at Zoar.* Several brooks add to its volume, of which but one, Steel Brooks bears a name. This stream rises in the western part of the town and takes a general southerly course meeting Pelham Brook at the southern boundary of Rowe. Other small tributaries rise in various parts of the town; one north of the road to Heath, another on the south-

*Zoar, "So-called because a former citizen, Lot like, left behind in the East a disagreeable wife." (Centennial Gazette). Also see Genesis 19:20-22, where the ancient city of Zoar is described as "a little one."

ern slope of Streeter Hill, another north of the old center, known locally as Langdon Brook, and others from one to two miles west of the old center. The first mills in Rowe were on Pelham Brook which as early as 1773 was called Pelham Mill Brook. The map of 1793 shows a saw-mill above the bridge which crosses the brook a mile south of the old center, and a "corn mill" (grist mill) just below the bridge on the south side of the brook. A deed of 1778 mentions a "sawmill" in the lower end of the flat south of the present center schoolhouse, and traces of the dam are still visible. The flat was probably the site of the mill pond. Without question these were the first mills. The next mill was a saw-mill a little above the place where the brook is crossed by the road to Heath. Probably the fifth mill was the so-called Thomas Fellows mill on Pelham Brook, a mile and a quarter above the mouth of Steel Brook. Fellows mill is mentioned as early as 1796. The saw-mill and grist mill by the bridge were owned by Moses Rogers as early as 1793. The saw-mill which has disintegrated on the west side of the brook, was built by Ambrose Stone in 1835,* and some of the first lumber turned out was used in building the satinet factory ** erected and operated by Solomon Amidon and Joseph Burton in 1836, later by the Franklin Manufacturing Company until 1847, a hundred rods to the north. Power for the latter was obtained from an overshot wheel, and the water was supplied by a long ditch or flume from the bed of the brook a few rods below the reservoir at the northwest base of Adams Mountain. S. P. Day*** subsequently operated the factory in a small way. The old stone dam

*Amidon and Stockwell owned the sawmill in March 1857. Moses Bullard followed by Will Reid operated the saw-mill before acquisition by the Foliated Talc Co. in 1905.

**Satinet was a fabric having a cotton warp and wool filling used in the manufacture of men's clothing, and was made by many plants throughout New England.

***Stephen P. Day had the factory in August 1847 if bills incurred are any proof, yet it was called Franklin Mfg. Co. in July 1847.

was blown up in 1879 or 1880 to prevent taxes accruing on an unused water power, and in 1905-6 it was rebuilt by the Foliated Talc Company to supply a constant head of water for their mill a mile down stream near the village school. A carding machine and fulling mill was built in 1808 by Selah Munson below the Nims-Hawks-Darling house, (called "Mr. Nims Fulling Mill" in 1810)*, and later another above the house of the late Mrs. Julia A. Browning. After 1812, Erastus and Moses Gleason enlarged the business of Ebenezer Nims, and added 60 spindles for the manufacture of satinets. The carding machinery was removed and the "clothing-works" carried on by Solomon Amidon and Moses Gleason, who then moved upstream. The Fellows saw-mill stood below Charles King's, which was later owned by Rufus Hyde who lost his life in the flood of 1869. Fayette Snow in more recent years had a wheel-wright shop just below the talc mill. The old Rogers grist mill below the blacksmith shop bridge was probably rebuilt "prior to 1825 by Thomas Brothers, and later sold to Abijah Burnap." Elijah Carpenter bought it about 1870 and added machinery for making Venetian blinds and chair stock. The mill was burned March 10, 1875. A tannery was operated for a number of years by Alfred Olds, Pliny and Joel Wells, Hitchcock & Maxwell and later by Thomas Scott and Sons, at the foot of Mrs. Julia Browning's hill. Below this was a currier shop, and a shop for making boots and shoes. Thomas Scott's Day Book (1846-1851) records sales of many pairs of boots ($1.50 per pair usually, $3.50 for a fine pair), and many items of new soles or mending. A shop for making planes and other bench tools still stands on the "pond road," and Horace Browning, the owner obtained power from the water in the flume leading to the satinet factory. Rev. Arad Hall had a shop in the southwest part of the town for making rakes, and later another shop with a modern water power by the

*A Fulling Mill Pond is mentioned in 1807 near the Nims house.

bridge a little below the Miller-Ayers house.* The brook has been known locally as Hall Brook and Shovel Handle Brook. At the foot of Tuttle's Flats, a mile above the present town centre, are the remains of an old stone dam and millsite. A tannery and potash works were once located at the old centre. S. Nash operated this tannery (a few rods east of the Robert Wells house) before 1800, and was succeeded by Asa Foster 2nd, Enos Adams, Alfred Olds, and Thomas Harrington. A small brook supplied sufficient water to make a little pond in which the writer when a small boy enjoyed swimming.

MINES AND MINERALS

The so-called Rowe serpentine enters the town from Vermont at the northeast corner and extends southwest across the town as a heavy bed, ten to twenty rods wide. A few rods northwesterly of Abbot White's house it bends a little and takes the same course as the Deerfield River to the west, forming the crest of a ridge. In the Cressy neighborhood it crosses the road and runs down to Hoosac Tunnel where it changes suddenly entirely into serpentine and steatite. At the old King place nearly one mile east of the Tunnel we find a large bed of sepentine with dolomite. It is compact, even grained and in color dark gray with traces of green on the fractured or sawed surfaces. A considerable amount has been taken out of this bed for soapstone stoves and bed-warmers.** On Abbott White's farm the Massachusetts Talc Company for a number of years mined talc. The rock was carted to the company's grinding mill at Zoar which burned under peculiar circumstances some years ago. The Foliated Talc Company was incorporated in 1905 and operated a talc mine on the old Bullard farm, a half-mile north of the old centre. The rock was carted to the grinding mill opposite

*The rake shop was below the bridge, the dam just above, and the water was carried under the road.

**Hoosac Quarry Co. mentioned in 1874.

the village school. Water power was supplied by a long metal flume from the pond connected with the village saw-mill, which in turn was supplied by Pelham Brook and the reservoir formerly supplying the old satinet factory. Operations ceased in 1922.

Knowledge of the existence of pyrite containing iron and sulpher on the Brown farm east of Adams Mountain, was known as early as 1840. H. J. Davis secured control and operated a mine from 1882 to 1910. Daily shipments at one time reached 150 tons; and before the mine was shut down, copper became an important by-product. The chief mineral was a mass of almost pure coarse-granular, shining yellow pyrite, with some chalco-pyrite, blende, garnets and galenite. In 1928, the Brown Co. of Portland, Maine and Berlin, N. H. made some tests to determine the practicability of reopening the mine in order to secure sulpher for their extensive pulp and paper mills, but made no further move.

About one and one-half miles west of the Davis Mine, George H. Davenport operated on a small copper vein for a few years. It was traceable for 700 feet conforming closely with the Savoy schist in which it occurs. The mine was abandoned after a few years, and the stockholders of the New England Mining Company, incorporated in 1902, had only pretty paper stock certificates and title to a few acres of land.

Nearer the top of the mountain, Joseph A. Sibley did a little blasting on a ledge having an outcrop of a small vein of copper.

CHAPTER II

ROWE IN KING GEORGE'S WAR

"It is open war with us and a dark and distressing scene opening."
Col. Israel Williams.

Our narrative opens with the year 1744, when war broke out between France and England, and when our grandfathers knew only too well that a European quarrel meant trouble for them on the exposed frontier. June 8th a scout was sent from Deerfield to Hoosac Mountain. They returned three days later with the report of having seen the trail of some forty Indians at the head of the west branch of North River (probably in what is now North Heath), which they followed for some distance. We infer that this scouting party must have passed through Rowe which lies midway between Hoosac Mountain and North Heath. Sheldon records that another scout sent out from Deerfield June 13th, returned two days later and "reported having seen on the Deerfield river, about eight miles above Rice's settlement at Charlemont, (near the present Hoosac Tunnel station), a place where three men had made a fire and camped, and saw two coats made Indian fashion hanging up to dry."

Deerfield now was no longer a frontier post. Tiny settlements had been established "on the Charlemont," at Colrain, Fall-Town (now Bernardston) Vernon and Charlestown, N. H. The Indians had been trading and mingling with the settlers, but at the outbreak of War, they returned to their tribes to prepare for trouble. In Queen Anne's War, (1703-1713), the route of the French invasions from Canada to the Connecticut Valley had been via Lake Champlain and thence over the Green Mountains. One was by the Winooski River and down the White; another up Otter Creek and down the Black, Williams or West Rivers; and a third, up Wood Creek,

Paulet and Indian Rivers to the Hoosick Valley and over Hoosac Mountain to the valley of the Deerfield.

To guard against these lines of approach, the Massachusetts General Court, in the summer of 1744, ordered the erection of a cordon of forts to run from Fort Dummer (built in 1724 in the present Town of Brattleboro), westerly to the New York line. Governor Shirley appointed a committee of three to build these forts, of whom the Chairman was Colonel John Stoddard of Northampton.

July 20, 1744 Stoddard wrote a letter to Captain William Williams his nephew, which reads as follows:

"Sir you are hereby Directed as soon as may be to Erect a fort of the Dimensions above mentioned, and you are to employ ye soldiers under your Command, viz such of them as are effective men and to allow them by ye day in manner as above expressed and in case your soldiers chuse rather to undertake to build sd fort for sum in Gross or by ye Great you may promise them Two Hundred pounds old Tenor Exclusive of the Nails that may be necessary the fort is to be erected about five miles from Hugh Morrison's house in Colrain in or near the line run last week Under the Direction of Col° Tim° Dwight by our order and you are hereby further directed as you may have Opportunity to Search out some Convenient places where two or three other forts may be Erected Each to be about five miles and a Half Distance upon the line run Last week as above mentioned or the pricked line on the platt made by Col° Dwight you will have with you.

"and further you are to order a sufficient Guard out of the men under your Command to guard such persons as may be Employed in erecting sd fort and further you have liberty to Exchange of the men under your command for those that are under the Command of Capt. Elijah in case there be any such that will be proper to be Employed in building sd fort you will take care that the men be faithful in their business, they must be watchful and prudent for their own safety.

"There must be good account kept of the various Services in case men work by the day.

John Stoddard.

To Capt. William Williams
Northampton, July 20, 1744."

Accompanying this letter was a certificate approving the erection of a line of forts "from Colrain to the Dutch Settlements," with the signatures of the Committee—John Stoddard, Ol. Partridge, and John Leonard. At the top of the letter is a memorandum:—

"The fort 60 feet Square Houses 11 feet wide Mounts 12 feet Square 7 feet high 12 feet High the fort roof of ye Houses to be shingled the Soldiers Employed to be allowed the Carpenter nine shillings others six shillings a day Old Tenor."

Such were the instructions for the erection of Forts Shirley in Heath, Pelham in Rowe, and Massachusetts in Williamstown, and the crude dimensions for Shirley. Colonel Dwight, the father of President Dwight of Yale College, in July 1744, had surveyed the line parallel to Hazen's Province Line at two miles' distance, on which two of the forts, Shirley and Pelham, were to be located. Fort Shirley was completed in short order, for Stoddard began billetting himself in the fort beginning October 30, 1744. The next we hear of Fort Pelham is the following March in a letter from the Stoddard Committee:—

"Northampton, March 6, 1745

To Capt. William Williams
of Fort Shirley

Sir you are hereby fully authorized and Impowered In ten days after this Date to employ so many of the soldiers under your Command as you Judge necessary In finishing a fort in the place where the Comtee for Building a Line of Block Houses &c agreed with Capt. Moses Rice to Build one and employ for that purpose the Timbers the sd Rice had drawn together (the sd Rice having Desired sd Timber may be employed for that purpose) you are to allow to a Carpenter Nine Shillings and other Effective men Six Shillings a Day Old Tenor you are to finish sd fort with all convenient speed provided the sd Rice do not within sd ten days take effectual care to your Satisfaction that he will finish it.

John Stoddard."

Apparently Stoddard had bargained with Rice for the erection of some sort of a fort on the hill-tops of Rowe.

Moses Rice had come from Rutland to be the first settler in Charlemont.* He built his first cabin in the spring of 1743 near a buttonwood tree that is still standing a few rods from the Charlemont bridge. In June 1755, twelve years later, Captain Rice was killed and scalped by Indians and his remains buried nearby. The grave is marked by a small monument which was dedicated in 1871.

Fort Pelham was erected on a slight swell of ground a scant half mile southeast of the old centre of Rowe. The site until recently was an open pasture on the farm of Henry Wright.** Perry described it as a "stockade twelve rods by twenty-four, probably enclosing nothing but a well and a small magazine and a covered lodging-place for the garrison in one or more of the interior angles. There was certainly a mount at Pelham in all likelihood upon the northwest corner, and under this would naturally and cheaply be the quarters for the soldiers."

Perry's conclusions were: (1) That Pelham was a purely palisaded fort constructed of upright posts or forest staddles sunk into the ground and bound together in contact with each other above, and not like Fort Shirley and the two bearing in succession on the same site (between North Adams and Williamstown) the name "Massachusetts," a jointed block-house of hewn timbers; (2) that it was in form a parallelogram twelve rods by twenty-four in extent, thus enclosing more than an acre and a half of dry ground on the swell of a broad hill; (3) that a trench, perhaps a foot deep, was dug around the four sides, and posts of a pretty uniform size (perhaps hewed) were set upright into the trench, unless natural trees of the right dimensions were already growing in line, and then the earth thrown back into the trench and up-

*The first mention of Charlemont is in a deed from Phineas Stevens to Othniel Taylor dated Nov. 3, 1742, in which it is called "Checkley's Town, otherwise called Charlemont."

**Henry Wright in 1943 sold his farm to Miss Florence N. Neal. In 1956 the site of the fort was difficult to find due to the undergrowth.

on both sides of the staddles, which now (1894) forms the pillow of turf that can be traced almost unbroken, particularly on the south and east sides; (4) that the well of the old fort was near the middle of the enclosure and upon the highest ground within it, and that the removal of four or five large stones that now choke the opening would practically restore the digging of 1745, and discover with certainty whether it were originally walled up within or constructed with corner-posts like the corresponding well at Shirley; (5) that the considerable circular depression a little northwest of the old well either indicated that the magazine of the fort was in part, at least, a substructure, or that the beginning of an unfinished well there was thwarted by a ledge, and a thorough excavation at that point might reveal which of the two, and possibly a stone floor or some remains of side walls; (6) that the main opening into the parade of the fort was, undoubtedly, on the north side, along which, at some distance further north, on account of the head of a swamp in the direct line east and west, the military road from Fort Shirley certainly passed in a northerly curve to the west, the straight west line being resumed about half a mile further on; (7) that the fort was placed where it was by the rude engineers of the time near the head waters of what came in consequence to be called Pelham Brook, in order to guard against access to the Deerfield by means of one of its many tributaries by parties of French and Indians coming from the north with hostile intent; (8) that the mount (or mounts) of the fort gave to the sentinel a wide survey of glorious mountain scenery in every direction, and that to the west Greylock itself, then as now, towered with bended arch above the long range of the Hoosacs; and (9) that the barracks of the men posted at Fort Pelham, of whom twenty was about the complement during King George's War, were within the pickets and probably at the corners in connection with the mount or mounts, although, naturally enough, there are no such remains of chimneys and ovens and bricks there as fairly clutter the ground at Fort Shirley.

We have seen that Capt. Moses Rice of Charlemont had agreed to build the fort. But Stoddard's letter of March 6, 1745 authorizes Williams to finish the fort and in so doing to "employ so many of the soldiers" under his command as were necessary and to "employ for that purpose the Timbers the sd Rice had drawn together." Williams was further instructed to "finish sd fort with all convenient speed," "provided the sd Rice do not within sd ten days take effectual care to your satisfaction that he will finish it." This letter reveals a delay in constructing the fort on the part of Rice, but history does not tell us whether it was Rice or the soldiers under Captain William Williams at Fort Shirley, who finished the work. Perry holds to the latter theory. An interesting question, however, presents itself. By March 6, 1745, the date of the letter, the fort had been partly constructed. The frost could hardly have been out of the ground so early in the year, and we are left to speculate as to whether the work was started in 1745 or in the fall of 1744.

Now Dr. Perry tells us that there is little doubt that the old military road continued west from Fort Pelham in Dwight's line, and passing Pulpit Rock to the right followed the present road southwesterly to the Deerfield at Hoosac Tunnel station. After a careful search of all available sources the writer is forced to disagree with this contention, and submits the following argument:— Dr. Perry's only authority cited is Colonel Stoddard's order to Captain Williams in 1744, "and you are hereby further directed as you may have Opportunity to Search out some Convenient places where two or three other forts may be Erected Each to be about five miles and a Half Distance upon the line run the Last week as above mentioned or the pricked line on the platt made by Col° Dwight whc platt you will have with you." Nowhere is there any record of the building of any road or the blazing of any trail west of Fort Pelham. No fort was ever constructed five and a half miles west of Pelham which would be on the heights of Florida and Monroe, and the third

fort in the cordon was Massachusetts, built the same year (1745) in the town-ship of North Adams some fifteen miles southwest of Pelham. The steep slopes in the western part of Rowe and west of the Deerfield would discourage any surveyor from laying out a trail to be travelled by pack horses. The topography of Rowe one to two miles west of Pelham is such that any engineer would draw a fairly straight line in a southwesterly direction and not a line due west forming a right angle with another due south. It was the custom for New England towns to build two intersecting main roads, one north and south and the other east and west. The town of Rowe in 1786, forty-one years later voted to establish the road four rods wide, west of Fort Pelham site, to the "west line of Lieut. Abner Chapin's farme" where it stopped; and the town at the same time voted to establish a road two rods wide from William Steel's northeast corner (near Steel Brook) to the southeast corner of Abner Chapin's meeting the four-rod "main road leading east and west through the Town." The road from the Cressy Neighborhood down to the Tunnel was first used in the 1860's and became a public road some 20 years later. The map of 1793 shows five roads, the east road to Heath, north road to Whitingham over Streeter Hill, north road from the old center past the Robert Wells farm to Readsborough, south road to Charlemont over the mountain, and the southwest road to Zoar. The west roads are omitted as they but connected outlying farms and led to no town.

When Capt. Moses Rice agreed to draw the timbers for Fort Pelham, there must have been some kind of trail from his cabin to the fort site. Furthermore, the ancient Mohawk Trail crossed the Deerfield a mile and a half above Rice's, ascended the heights on the southerly slopes of Todd Mountain and crossed Hoosac Mountain in a northwesterly direction. This was used by the early settlers with their pack horses and cattle.* Finally, we have the diary of John Norton, the

*See appendix G.

chaplain appointed to these forts in 1745.

"Thursday, August 14, 1746.—I left Fort Shirley in company with Dr. Williams, and about fourteen of the soldiers; we went to Pelham fort, and from thence to Capt. Rice's, where we lodged that night. Friday, the 15th, we went from thence to Fort Massachusetts, where I designed to have tarried about a month."

Rice's homestead was about midway between Deerfield and Fort Massachusetts and the valiant captain was so often forced to act as host to travellers that he petitioned the General Court for assistance. Under date of Dec. 4, 1752,—"That his living was of great service as he humbly apprehends to the Publick, as being the only House where People could be Supplied. And as Soldiers were often Travailling that way, as well as small Parties on Scouts, it was very Expensive to your Petitioner, who often Supply'd them at his own cost."

The old road from Isaiah Adams'* above Rogers mills southerly over Adams Mountain has long since been closed (1837) to all but a stray traveler, but is still known locally as Norton's Trail. This was the military road.

John Norton was born in Berlin, Connecticut, in 1716, was graduated at Yale College in 1737, was ordained in 1741 in Deerfield to be the minister of Falltown (Bernardston), and was appointed chaplain of the forts in 1745. He began his new duties in February 1746. August 1, 1746 he came from Shirley to Pelham and continued on to Rices. The following day he arrived at Massachusetts intending to stay a month. But on August 20 the Fort surrendered to 800 French and Indians under Vaudreuil, and the 20 inmates were carried captives to Canada. In this seige which lasted 24 hours, the Chaplain shared the honors with Sergeant John Hawks, the gallant commander, and this fight forms one of the most brilliant pages in American History. He returned to Boston

*The writer's bungalow was erected by his father on the Adams House-site in 1900.

August 16, 1747 and took his family to Springfield. In November 1748 he settled in the ministry at East Hampton, Connecticut where he died in 1778. For many years there stood in Shirley field a rude headstone with the following inscription:

Here lys ye body of Anna
D: of ye Rev.
Mr. John Norton. She died
Aug. ye—aged—1747.

It requires but small imagination to picture the hardships of life in Shirley Fort and the desolation felt by the young wife and children during the chaplain's captivity of one year. His place as chaplain for the line of forts was never filled.

In his diary, Norton states that he travelled from Fort Shirley to Pelham and thence to Massachusetts by way of Rice's, in company with Dr. Williams and about fourteen soldiers. This Dr. Williams was Thomas Williams, half brother of Captain Ephraim Williams, and was born in Newton in 1718, which would make him 28 years of age at this time. He was the surgeon for the line of forts, having become such probably when John Norton was made the chaplain and Ephraim Williams the captain. Dr. Williams arrived at Fort Massachusetts August 15, 1746 with Norton and fourteen soldiers, but left the fort the following day for Deerfield "with fourteen men", and so escaped capture when Fort Massachusetts surrendered.

Captain Ephraim Williams, later the founder of Williams College, was in full command of the line of forts, twelve in all, including Deerfield, from June 9, 1745 to December 10, 1746.

The war continued in a desultory way in various parts of New England. In 1748 various moves were made by the authorities at Boston which indicates their determination to make that year a decisive one. Fort Massachusetts and No. 4 (Charlestown, N. H.) were made the important centers

probably to the neglect of the Shirley and Pelham forts. The Hobbs fight (12 miles west from Fort Dummer) took place in June 1748, and another attack by the French and Indians on Fort Massachusetts in August, this time proving unsuccessful. Captain Ephraim Williams had only shortly before changed his headquarters from Shirley to Fort Massachusetts.

The Peace of Aix-la-Chapelle was signed October 18, 1748 which terminated the hostilities between England and France. Nevertheless, the New England frontiers remained in a state of semi-hostilities until the outbreak of the next war in 1754. All the garrisons, however, were reduced and Shirley and Pelham became relatively unimportant as outposts.

Capt. Ephraim Williams remained in command of the new Fort Massachusetts, rebuilt in 1747; but thereafter, the line of forts to the eastward was under a separate command. Capt. Israel Williams, half-cousin of Ephraim and nephew of Col. John Stoddard, in 1748 was given command of the forts with headquarters at Shirley. He then had 36 men at Shirley,* 30 at Pelham, 25 at Morrison's Fort in Colrain, 16 at South Fort in Colrain, and 12 at New Hampton and Blandford. Lieut. Samuel Childs commanded at Fort Pelham, with John Foster as Sergeant and Samuel Barnard as Clerk. Sheldon quotes a tradition to the effect that Joshua Hawks' son Jared Hawks, was born at the Fort March 27, 1752, perhaps the first baby within the present limits of Rowe.** Following is the list of men at Fort Pelham in 1748:

Lieut. Samuel Childs,	Deerfield	Joseph Bucknan	Oxford
Clerk Samuel Barnard,	"	Aaron Rice,***	Rutland
Sergt. John Foster,	"	Ebenezer Altbee,	Holliston
Centl. Moses Copley,	Suffield	Joseph Gould,	Hopkinton
Daniel Warner,	"	Elias Witt,	Marlborough
Joel Kent,	"	Josiah Child,	Grafton

*Cf. Letter from Col. Stoddard to Gov. Shirley, March 1, 1748.

**According to Joseph White (Historical Discourse, 1885), Jared Hawks was born in Charlemont March 17, 1752, while a family tradition had his brother Eleazer born at Fort Pelham Feb. 29, 1747.

***Aaron Rice was the son of Capt. Moses Rice.

Joseph Ball, Jun.	Springfield	Samuel Allen,	Kingston
Moses Wright,	Northfield	John Post,	Brimfield
Josiah Burnham,	Deerfield	Aaron Graves,	"
Archalaus Beadeau,	Weston	John Bagg,	Springfield
Ezekiel Foster,	Deerfield	Ithamar Healey,	Rehoboth
Jacob Foster,	"	Samuel Abbott,	Lamktown
Joshua Wells,	"	Josiah Walker,	Westborough
Jonathan Evans,	Somers	Ralph Wardell,	Longmeadow
Joshua Hawks,	Deerfield	Samuel Ball,	Springfield

The muster roll of the garrison at Fort Massachusetts extending from December 11, 1749 to June 3, 1750, gives twenty-one men to Fort Massachusetts, five expressly to Fort Shirley, and five, apparently, to Fort Pelham, although, as Ferry points out, the official indorsement mentions only "Ephm Williams and Co. at Fort Massachusetts." The five apparently given to Fort Pelham are

Joseph Allen, Sergant
Joshua Hawks, Cent.
Joshua Wells, Cent.
Daniel Donnilson, Cent.
William Stevens, Cent.

On November 1, 1748 Capt. Williams had 88 at Shirley, Pelham and Colrain, but then dismissed 35, retaining 53 men until April 3, 1749. Lieut. William Lyman in his return gives 26 as the number in the entire line of forts, from June 1749 to January 1750.

On June 13, 1754 Governor Shirley sent a message to the House of Representatives which contains the following:

"Upon this Occasion I must put you in mind of the hazardous condition Fort Pelham and Fort Shirley are now in, if there should be any sudden Assault from the Indians on that Frontier; we must expect that the thing they will do would be to burn those forts, which they might easily do in their present Circumstances. Therefore I must recommend it to you, that provision be made that some better care may be taken for preserving them."

Israel Williams, now Colonel in command of the northern regiment in Hampshire County, was entrusted with the defence of the northwestern frontier. He drew a sketch of the

region for Governor Shirley, to whom he recommended the abandonment of Pelham and Shirley Forts, and the establishment of forts in the valley on the north side of Deerfield River, Taylor Fort at East Charlemont enclosing the houses of Othniel and Jonathan Taylor, the same arrangement in the western part of Charlemont, at the houses of Gershom and Seth Hawks. The General Court accepted these plans, and Rowe and Heath again became a wilderness.

Two interesting letters addressed to Othniel Taylor at Charlemont may here be inserted as showing the service of scouts in and about Rowe.

Colrain, May the 18, 1758.

Sr I have ordered the scout from this place to go once in a week to Deerfield River about 8 miles above the province Line, and fall town (Bernardston) Scout to strike the North River 6 miles above us, and direct you to send your Scout once a week to Deerfield River at the province line. we have no news, but all well.

I am your sevent, John Catlin.

Colrain, May the 30, 1758.

Sr Last Sunday night I rec'd an account from Sergt. Hawks that his Scout had made Some discovery of an Enemy not far from pelham fort. These are therefore to direct you to taek one man from your fort with you and go to Rice's, and taek two men there to Hawk's and taek Samuel Morrison with one man, five in whole and go to the place where they took their start, and make a thourer Search, and if you make no discovery then carry the Scout as hy up as the province Line, and make return to me.

Your Sevnt,
John Catlin

The following letter from Governor Shirley to John Stoddard, dated April 10, 1747, is especially interesting in showing the continued plan to build a fort west of Pelham. The letter is so full of interest that we give it in full.

"The General Court having come to a Resolution respecting the Defence of the Frontiers, and provided for erecting a Number of Blockhouses, particularly one at or near the Place where Massachusetts Fort stood, another to the Westward of Fort Pelham, and third

between Colerain and Fall Town, (for the building of which you have my order herewith enclosed), and having voted Pay and Subsistence to the Garrisons to be placed in such Blockhouses, and the Soldiers to be posted in other Places particularly mention'd, I shall give Orders to Brigadier Dwight to draw out of his Regimt so many Men as with those now in the Service in the County of Hampshire will make up the full number allowed on this Establishment for Garrison Soldiers; And I desire that you and he would agree upon the Distribution of them accordingly, viz Twenty Men for a Garrison at Northfield, and as many at Colerain, Thirty at the new Massachusetts Fort. At Fort Shirley, Fort Pelham, the Blockhouse at Fall Town, the Blockhouses to be built one between Colerain and Pelham and the other to the Westward of Fort Pelham twenty Men each. And you must give Orders to the Commanding Officers of the several Forts and Blockhouses that will be garrisoned by other Soldiers than those of Brigadier Dwight's Regiment (as I shall direct him to do respecting those Officers in the Service that are in his Regimt) to keep a constant Scout from one Blockhouse to another to give proper Advices and Signals of the Appearance of the Enemy, and to the Commanding Officers at Massachusetts Fort to keep out a Scout Westwards of said Fort, and all of them to keep Journals of their Proceedings and transmit them to you: You must put ten of the Inhabitants of Colerain and as many of the Inhabitants of Green River above Deerfield into the Pay of the Province.

Besides the Recruits you will have from Brigr Dwight for the Garrisons before mention'd, I shall order him to draw out a hundred Men for a Marching Company to scout on your Borders, and more especially for covering the Men that will be employed in building the new Blockhouses; In the disposition of which as well as in all matters relating to the Defence of your Frontier I shall order him to advice you from time to time.

I am
Sir,
Your most Assur'd
Friend and Servant
W. Shirley."

Col° John Stoddard

Col. Israel Williams under date of September 12, 1754 wrote to Governor Shirley in part as follows:

"I conclude by this time you are fully inform'd of the hostil attacks of the Indians, and the mischief done by them in our own Frontiers

and the neighboring Governments—It is now open war with us, and a dark distressing scene opening . . . .

Herewith I send a plan of the Western Parts of this Province by which your Excellency will be able to form a judgment of our situation and whether what I am about to propose will serve the general Interest of the whole which is,—That there be a Garrison at Fall Town, another at Morrisons in Colrain, two at Charlemont, Massachusetts Fort and a garrison at Pontoosook. The people are preparing for their defence, as I suppose, and the charge of making those places sufficient will not as I apprehend be very great to the Government.

I propose that there be at least fifty men at Fort Massachusetts, thirty at Pontoosook, they to maintain a constant scout from Stockbridge thro the Western part of Framingham township, and the West Township at Hooseck to the said Fort and from thence to the top of Hoosack Mountain. That there be 14 men at Fall Town, 20 at Morrisons and 12 at each garrison at Charlemont, these to perform a constant scout from Connecticut River against Northfield to the top of Hooseck Mountain. These scouts thus performed will cross all the roads the Enemy ever travel to come within the aforesaid Line of Forts. There will doubtless be more wanted for the Protection of some places within the Line. However if the scouting be faithfully performed there will not, I apprehend, any considerable body of the enemy get within the Line aforesaid undiscovered and there will be a great restraint upon small parties who will be afear'd of being ensnar'd.

The reasons why I would neglect Shirley and Pelham Fort is because the Indians were scarce ever known the last war to come down Deerfield River, and that road is very bad and almost impassable. Shirley is rotten and if maintained must be rebuilt. That at Morrisons will answer as well and can be much easier supply'd. After all if our Government would build a Fort upon the top of Hooseck Mountain between Pelham and Fort Massachusetts it would shorten the scouting and answer as well the first proposed line thro Charlemont."

Governor Shirley replied to this letter of Israel Williams in part as follows:

"I am extremely well satisfied with the great care and vigilance you have already shew'd for the protection and safety of the people upon the Western Frontier . . .

The plan you sent hath been of great service for my information in the state of Western Frontier, and I much approve of the Line of Forts propos'd by you for the defence and protection of it, by marching parties or scouts.

So far as I could go in the execution of it before the meeting of the General Court, I have gone and propos'd to his Majesty's Council the augmentation of the Garrison of Fort Massachusetts with 25 men, and 30 men to be posted and employed in scouting as you shall think most for the protection of the frontier under your care, which you will find they have advis'd to, and you will raise the men accordingly.

When the General Court meets I shall endeavor to carry the remainder of your scheme into execution, and shall make the protection and defence of that part of the Province, in the most effectual manner in every respect, one of the principal objects of my attention."

CHAPTER III

FROM 1754 TO 1785

"The last Indian raid on the frontiers of Massachusetts was at Colrain March 21, 1759."

George Sheldon.

Rufus Putnam was one of the heroes of the Revolutionary War, upon whose career the pen of the historian has touched too lightly. Overshadowed perhaps by his more picturesque cousin, Israel Putnam, Colonel Rufus Putnam was probably of greater value to the American cause; and as Washington's Chief of Engineers his service was incalculable. However, it is an event in his varied career which took place in the "Old French War" that concerns us now, as it touches upon Rowe.

Born in 1738, his boyhood was not different from that of other New England boys, learned in the art of hunting and woodcraft. When nearly sixteen, he was bound as an apprentice to the mill-wright trade under a brother-in-law at Brookfield. For the next three years he practiced his trade, and at the same time acquired a large brawny frame possessed of great muscular strength.

The war between England and France had broken out in 1754. The news of the battles, Braddock's defeat, the exploits of Israel Putnam, must have fired his youthful mind, for in his nineteenth year he enlisted as a private soldier in the Company of 100 under Capt. Ebenezer Learned. The term of service was to be from March 15, 1757 to February 2, 1758. The last of April 1757, the company left Brookfield for Kinderhook, N. Y., about eighteen miles below Albany. The rest of the campaign was spent in the Hudson Valley, mostly between Albany and Fort Edward. New Year's Day, 1758 found the company at Stillwater on the east side of the Hudson across the river from the spot where

the battle of Bemis Heights (or Saratoga) was later to decide the fate of Burgoyne. The men were eagerly awaiting Candlemas (February 2nd) when they would be released from "servitude."

From the movements of Captain Skene, the Commander of the stockade garrison, they suspected that he intended to hold them in service beyond the limit of their enlistment. So they quietly made arrangements for their journey and constructed snow-shoes for each man. Capt. Learned then returned from a furlough; and when apprised of the plan, he consented to lead them. The 2nd of February came and Capt. Skene read an order from Gen. Abercrombie, directing him to persuade the Massachusetts men to remain a few days until he could hear from that Government. The men replied that he is a good soldier who serves his full time.

True to their purpose, about three o'clock in the morning of the 3rd they left the garrison, seventy in number under Capt. Learned. The distance to Hoosack Fort (in Williamstown) was 30 miles and was allotted for two days' march. The provisions had been saved from the daily rations for a week or so previous. The snow in the woods proved deeper than expected, while a snow storm on the second day bewildered the leaders. Three wild turkeys were killed which added a little to the scanty stock of provisions. On the fourth day they found that they had missed the way and had been following the wrong stream. This branch, it seems, led them into the New Hampshire grants where Bennington, Vermont is now located.

We now quote from Putnam's Journal which is deposited in the library of the college at Marietta, Ohio.

"Sundown we came upon the top of a very large mountain, (Woodford and Searsburg), which seemed to be the height of land, and now we were satisfied whereabouts we were. We judged ourselves to be 30 miles northwest of Hoosack. The weather was exceedingly cold, and the snow five feet deep and the provisions very short. February 7. This morning thirty of us made a good Breakfast of

a small poor turkey without salt or bread; and now our provision was gone. In about 5 miles from where we Lodged, we came upon a Small Stream (near Heartwellville) descending toward the South East, at the seeing of which we were all very much rejoiced; there seemed to be a smiling countenance on all the Company, to think that we got on the Borders of New England. And on our way down this stream, there were several small streams come into it, so that it got to be a large River. This night we camped but felt exceeding faint for want of victuals, but yet our Courage held out. At present Courage was the only thing we had to support us, except it was Beech buds and some high swamp Cranberries.

"Feb. 8. This day we had exceeding bad travelling all day, and the River turned contrary to our expectations; so that we had but little hopes of getting into any Post these some days. It was now exceeding stormy weather and heavy travelling, only on the River (Deerfield) when the Ice would bear; and had we not had some relief by that means, we had all perished in the woods. About Sundown we came to camp and being exceeding faint, living without victuals some days and we having a large dog with us, we killed him and divided him among 70 men, giving every man his equal share . . .

"Feb. 9. This day we had better travelling on the River and it seemed to steer the way we wanted, (they had rounded the Great Bend at Hoosac Tunnel), and about noon we came to where some trees were cut for shingles, (probably near Hoosac Tunnel), and at night we came to where one of our men knew the ground, (Zoar where Pelham Brook meets the Deerfield), and told the Capt. we were within three miles of Hawk's Fort, on the Charlemont; notwithstanding the Capt. would not go on because a great part of the men had froze their feet, and were at least two miles behind. But we went to Camping, (on Zoar flats), and the Capt. and James Call, who knew the ground went down the river about a mile till the Capt. was Satisfied the man knew as much as he pretended, and then sent him on, and ordered him to have a breakfast prepared in the morning; after which the Capt. returned back to us by which time those lame men came up, and as the Capt. came up to us, we were all very zealous to hear what news? But we soon learned by the Captain's countenance, before he got within some rods of us and as the Capt. came up to us, he said. Eat what you have to eat this night; for the promised land is just by. Some were for going on this night, but the Capt. told them; No, by no means, for it would hazard the lives of a great many. The news that the Capt. brought

raised the Spirits of all the men, so that those whose Countenance looked sad, were brought to a very smiling Complection.

"Feb. 10. This morning we set out on our march, and about one mile from where we camped, we saw three men a-coming up the River which we were glad to see, and when they come to us, we found that one of them was the man we sent on the night before and he brought out some bread and meat boiled; which we recd. very Kindly, and about ten o'clock we came into Hawk's Fort on Charlemont, when we Refreshed ourselves until about noon; after which we marched to Rice's Fort about one mile, where twenty of us stayed, all which were lame by reason of their feet being froze on our march except Samuel Dexter, Lemuel Cobb, and myself. Through all this march I brought Ichabod Dexter's pack, because he froze his feet before we set out from Stillwater, and I tarried to help him along further."

The next day, twenty of the men including Putnam continued to Taylor's Fort. Putnam then continued to Deerfield,* Hadley, Greenwich, and arrived at his home in Brookfield, February 15th.

PELHAM

The orgin of the appellation of Pelham is of considerable interest to lovers of Rowe. We can do no better than quote Perry again.

"Henry Pelham was nobody in particular except the brother of the Duke of Newcastle, but he became a first lord of the British Treasury in 1743, and was virtually prime minister of England thereafter till his death in 1754, when William Pitt, whose gradual introduction into high public place by Pelham was the latter's greatest service to his country, stepped boldly though tentatively into the chief control of affairs, and in five years put an end to French domination in America. The rustic Colonial politicians were wont to keep a sharp eye on the drift of things in England, and knew who the rising statesmen were over there whenever any such seemed to

*Curiously, George Sheldon in his splendid history of Deerfield, overlooked the account of this expedition and apparently did not know of Putnam's Journal. His only reference, is on page 654 of Volume I,—"February 11th, Capt. Ebenezer Larned with forty-six men spent a day here on his return from the camp. Samuel Wells furnished them 147 meals at 5d."

show up their heads. Besides this, it is said that Henry Pelham made a personal tour of Massachusetts a little before the outbreak of King George's War; and at any rate, the old county of Hampshire, for one or both of these reasons, exhibited to the world a township, a fort, and a mountain stream, all called after his name at just about the same time."

The tract comprising the town of Pelham was first sold to Colonel Stoddard of Northampton, and was known as Stod dard's Town. Later he sold it to some settlers from Worcester, and the name was changed to Pelham at the time of incorporation in 1742. Probably Col. Stoddard gave the same name to the fort in Rowe, for he was Chairman of the Committee in charge of the erection of the cordon of forts west of Colrain. He has been called "one of that great trio which had John Pynchon of Springfield for its first member, and Col. Samuel Partridge of Hatfield for its second, and which ruled or led Western Massachusetts through an entire century of its history."

FIRST PERMANENT SETTLEMENT

In February 1762 the General Court of Massachusetts appointed a committee to sell "nine Townships and 10,000 acres of the Province Lands" in the counties of Hampshire and Berkshire. In accordance with its instructions the committee, on June 2, 1762, held a public auction at the Royal Exchange Tavern in King Street, Boston; and the tenth parcel was bid in by one Cornelius Jones for 380 pounds. Apparently there was some competitive bidding, for the 10,000 acres had been "set up at three Hundred Pounds." The conditions of the sale were "that within the space of five years there be residing on said Land twenty five Inhabitants, each to have a Dwelling-House of the Dimensions above mentioned, (24 feet long, 18 feet wide and 7 feet Studd), and each seven acres of Land well cleared and Fenced." (See Appendix C.)

Perhaps the same year, 1762, Rev. Cornelius Jones emigrated from Sandisfield in Berkshire where he had been the minister of the Congregational Church since its formation in 1756. The Sandisfield parish must have been small, for his ordination was held in a barn a year before the erection of a meetinghouse, and the congregation the first year totalled only fourteen. Holland states that Mr. Jones was dismissed from the Sandisfield Church in 1761. The craze for land which our forebears possessed it is hard for us to realize in these modern times when half the American people are classed as urban; but we must remember that agriculture was practically the only pursuit that the average man could follow. At any rate we find the Reverend Mr. Jones acquiring title to a tract of land four miles square whither he moved his family comprising his wife, two daughters and several sons.* The grant reads as follows:—

"A Tract of Land bounded North on the Province Line, East on Land belonging to Messrs. Green and Walker and Bulfinch, South partly on Charlemont, to extend West to make the Contents of Ten Thousand acres to Cornelius Jones for Three Hundred and eighty Pounds, and have received of him Ten Pounds, and taken his Bond, with John Chadwick for Three Hundred and seventy Pounds."

This act is dated June 11, 1762.

Holland tells us that "he erected a small house of split planks, and brought his family into the wilderness where there was not another house within six or seven miles," namely "on the Charlemont." To this tract he gave the name of Myrifield. A petition to the General Court in September, 1779 (Acts and Resolves of Prov. Laws) describes a "tract of land called The Ten Thousand Acres, alias Myrifield." The writer has always been skeptical of the story that this name was corruption of My-rye-field, and believes this to be but a pretty myth. Much more likely is it that

*Charlemont appointed him preacher from May to October 1763 which indicates his presence in this region at least within a year of his land purchase.

Myrifield is a poetic spelling of Merryfield; and in fact the map of Green & Walker's Grant drawn in 1779, to show the tract of 7000 acres proposed to be added to Mr. Jones' original purchase, gives the spelling in two places,—Merryfield; while in an old Charlemont grant of 1774 the spelling is Murryfield.

The ninth of these ten parcels of land which were sold at auction in 1762 was incorporated three years later (1765) under the name of Murrayfield,* in honor of William Murray, Lord Mansfield; and it continued under that name until 1783, when the name was changed to Chester. Is it possible that Murrayfield suggested to our early settlers the name of Merryfield and that later this was modified to Myrifield,—phonetically somewhat similar but with a distinctly different spelling?

Mr. Jones is credited with having offered his lands at a low price, which induced others to come in and settle; among whom, Holland states were the following Worcester County men,—Jonathan Lamb, Artemas Ward, Michael Wilson, Nathan Howard, Gideon Chapin, Henry Gleason, Archibald and Joseph Thomas, Matthew Barr, John, Humphrey and William Taylor. Archibald Thomas came from Boston via Colrain.

The first settlement in the neighboring town of Heath was made by Jonathan Taylor of Charlemont in 1765, three years after Mr. Jones came to Rowe. Holland is authority for the following story in regard to the two towns.

"About 1777 a long series of difficulties commenced between Rev. Mr. Leavitt (of Heath) and the people of Charlemont. Some thought Mr. Leavitt preached Arminianism. His political sentiments were generally disliked. He did not seem to share in his people's

*Confusion arose between the two names, and in December 1775 the town of Murrayfield petitioned the GENERAL COURT to change its name. It was seven years later (Feb. 1783) that the ACT was passed. "Whereas, from the great similarity between the names of said town called Murrayfield and a plantation called Merryfield in this commonwealth, many difficulties and inconveniences have arisen . . . ."

zeal for the Revolution. On one occasion, Rev. Mr. Jones of Rowe came to deal with Mr. Leavitt for his religious or political heresies. Mr. Jones, armed with a bayonet fastened to a rake's tail, marched at the head of his parishioners, who were also armed, but what success they met with does not appear."

Mr. Jones was a native of Bellingham and a graduate of Harvard College in the Class of 1752. His labors in Rowe will be taken up in a later chapter. In February 1779, he conveyed to William Parkhurst and Company, of Brookfield, all the lands he then owned in Myrifield, some 4000 acres, for the sum of £9,000 in continental money which was never redeemed.* He removed to Whitehall, N. Y. where he died a poor man. Parkhurst subsequently divided one quarter interest each between Obed Foote (of Waterbury, Conn.), Samuel Rogers and Gersham Makepeace. The latter in 1780 sold his interest to Parkhurst and Isaac Wood.

Meanwhile the plantation of Myrifield continued to grow. The eight families of 1770 had increased to 28 families by 1775. By 1784 there were 88 polls, of which 77 were "rateable."

Annual appropriations were made for the "Gospel Schools, Roads and other Necessary charges," and officers were chosen. It was a town in all but name only. The first petition for incorporation was presented to the General Court in September 1779.** In September 1782 a committee of three, Joseph Nash, Archibald Thomas and Eldad Corbet, petitioned the General Court for an act of incorporation, the

*The deed is dated Feb. 19, 1779. The 4000 acres included all his land west of the Deerfield, the barren land on the east slope of the river, and an irregular strip, which included his farm, the site of the old fort and part of the swamp lands now comprising Pelham Lake.

**A petition from the inhabitants of a "tract of land called The Ten Thousand Acres, alias Myrifield, formerly purchased of this government." May 4, 1780 the report of a committee recommended that two tiers of lots, containing 200 rods in breadth, "lying on the west end of Green and Walker's Grant" be annexed into the plantation called Myrifield and incorporated with it into a town.

name to be changed to Exeter. No reason appears for the selection of this name. The petition came up for consideration the following month, but failed of passage. In September 1783, a year later, a longer and more detailed petition was submitted which reads as follows:—

"To The Honorable the Great and General Court or assembly of the Commonwealth of the Massachusetts.

The petition of the inhabitants of a Grant of land formerly made to Mr. Cornelius Jones of Ten Thousand acres called by the name of Myrifield in the County of Hampshire Humbly Shews that your petitioners have Repeated by Requested incorporations into a Township together with some addition from other places Viz Beginning at the S. West Corner of the beforementioned Grant of land, thence Running South two hundred Rods to a Corner, thence Running East 6 Degrees South 1566 Rods to a Corner, thence North 1343 Rods to the New-State line including the abovementioned Grant, together with two Hundred Rods in width from the Town of Charlemont, with some Grants of land West of Charlemont on the South Side of sd Myrifield, also together with 200 Rods in Width, on the East end, from the lands called Green & Walkers—we would at this time Renew our Request that your Honours would Speedily Grant our Request for the privileges of an incorporated Township with the additions before mentioned by the name of Exeter and as this place has been looked upon to be cut in two by the county line crossing the same we Desire the whole to be set to the County of Hampshire.

Furthermore as the Honorable Court Resolved an abatement of one third part of our Taxes in April 1780, and as it appeared Reasonable to the Committee of the Honorable House last year that the treasurer be Discharged of ye same &c we pray a final Determination may soon take place and as it appeared to the Honorable House last year that there was a mistake in one of the Requisitions for Beef sent to us, and as we had only a Receipt in part, yet it was Right to Discharge us of the whole Notwithstanding we find that we are Ranked with those places that are Delinquent in paying in their proportion. Our prayer is that your Honors would take these matters into your Consideration, that the whole of these affairs may soon be brought to a Conclusion.

We further (illegible) that as we have been under a Necessity for the Support of the Gospel, Schools, Roads and other Necessary charges, to grant money annually and chose officers to collect the same as in Duty Bound. In Behalf of the inhabitants.

Myrifield
Sept. 12, 1783
Henry Willson
Archibald Thomas
Benjn Brown } Committee"

This petition came up for action a year later and was finally acted upon favorably in February 1785. It is written in a beautiful hand and with but one word misspelled. Perhaps the author was Archibald Thomas, who had been a deacon in a Boston church.

The eleventh hour petition (Feb. 1, 1785) of "Jonas Gleason Agent" that "the Land called Fulhams mite not be incorporated with sd Plantation save so much as will Lay it in a square forme," proved ineffectual.

Following is the act of incorporation which was passed by the General Court February 9, 1785.

"An Act for incorporating a Grant of Land, formerly made to Mr. Cornelius Jones, of ten Thousand Acres, called by the name of Myrifield, in the County of Hampshire, together with other Lands adjoining, and the Inhabitants thereon, into a separate Town, by the name of Rowe.

"Whereas a number of the inhabitants of the plantation called Myrifield in the county of Hampshire, have petitioned this Court, to be incorporated into a Town, for reasons set forth in their petition, and it appearing to this court that it is expedient that the said planation be incorporated:

Sect. 1. Be it therefore enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in Gneral Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That the lands hereafter described, viz—Beginning at the southwest corner of the beforementioned grant of land, thence running south two hundred rods to a corner, thence running east six degrees south, one thousand five hundred and sixty-six rods to a corner, thence north one thousand three hundred and forty-three rods to the line of a territory called Vermont, including the above mentioned grant, together with two hundred rods in width from the town of Charlemont, and from Pierce's, Dennis's, and the whole of Fulham's grant of land west of Charlemont, on the south side of the said Myrifield, also, together with two hundred rods in width on the east end from the land called Green and Walker's lands,

together with the inhabitants, thereon, be, and they are hereby incorporated into a distinct town, by the name of Rowe, and invested with all the power, privileges and immunities, that towns in this Commonwealth are entitled to, or do or may enjoy according to law.

Sect. 2. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That Samuel Taylor, of Buckland, Esq. be, and he hereby is empowered to issue his warrant directed to some principal inhabitant within the said town of Rowe, directing him to warn the inhabitants of the said town qualified to vote in town affairs, to assemble at some convenient time and place in the same town, to choose all such town officers as by law are to be chosen annually, in the month of March.

Sect. 3. Provided nevertheless, The inhabitants of the said town of Rowe, which were before the passing of this Act inhabitants of any other town or place, shall pay their proportionable part of all such town, county and State taxes, as are already assessed or levied on them by the town or place where they usually were taxed.

Sect. 4. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the whole and every part of the said town of Rowe be hereafter included within the county of Hampshire; and that the west bound thereof shall be the boundary line, between the counties of Hampshire and Berkshire."

Both petitions called for the name,—Exeter; yet the act established the name,—Rowe.* No written evidence has ever been found to account for this change. Tradition says that it was made in honor of John Rowe, a well-known Boston merchant and man-of-affairs, and that he promised to give the town a bell. This plan was never carried out, perhaps because at that time there was no suitable place in which to hang the bell, and John Rowe died two years later. Certainly, there is no record today of the existence of such a bell, although the writer 35 years ago thought he was on the trail of it in Boston.

*John Rowe was born in Exeter, England. This may not have any significance.

CHAPTER IV

EARLY TOWN AFFAIRS

"It is with young Colonies as it is with Trees newly planted; which those Winds as one faith, that are not so boisterous as to blow down, do so far Advantage as to shake them to a greater Fastness at the Root."

Hubbard's Indian Wars.

Pursuant to a warrant issued by Samuel Taylor of Buckland, the first town meeting was held March 30, 1785, at which the town officers were chosen as follows:—

Selectmen—	Capt. William Taylor
	Isaac Langdon
	Moses Streeter
Moderator—	Capt. Benjamin Brown
Town Clerk—	Nathan Foster
Constable—	Archibald Thomas
Tax Collector—	William Heartwell
Ass't Tax Collector—	Michael Wilson
Treasurer—	Deacon Jonas Gleason
Assessors—	Nathan Foster
	Benjamin Brown
	Ambrose Potter
Wardens—	Nathan Foster
	Benjn Shumway
Tythingmen—	Jude Foster
	Moses Streeter
Highway Surveyors—	Eldad Corbet
	Daniel Coone
	Capt. Matthew Barr
	Abner Chapin
	Ambrose Potter
Sealer of Leather	Capt. Matthew Barr
Hogreaves—	John Merrill
	Daniel Gleason

Apparently it required a considerable length of time to choose these officers, for there was an adjourned meeting April 4, 1785 at "Landlord Potter's" when it was voted to

raise £130 "to defray town charges," and £20, for "repairing highways," the first appropriation made by Rowe as a town.

The sum of twenty pounds for roads was found insufficient, and at another meeting Sept. 15, 1785 thirty pounds additional were granted. At the same time a committee of three was appointed "to build a Pound at the Northwest corner of the meetinghouse Lot 30 feet square with poles." The meetinghouse which will be discussed in a later chapter stood on the rocky knoll at the southwest corner of the intersection of the roads at the old centre.

The first State election in Rowe was held April 27, 1785 and the vote was as follows:—

Governor	Lieut. Governor
Thomas Cushing —12	Samuel Adams —10
Senators	Hugh McClellan —23
David Smead, Esq.—28	Hugh Maxwell Esq.—6
David Saxton, Esq.—24	Samuel Taylor Esq.—3
Daniel Whitmore —21	

In 1791, Joseph Nash, who had been tax collector for a number of years and had been criticized for failing to collect Joseph Steel's taxes three years previous, was found short in his accounts. At a meeting in June 1791, the town voted to take no action in the proposal to "support Mr. Joseph Nash in Gaol," but two months later the town voted to take two notes of Zenas Nash (son of Joseph) with his uncle Benjamin Nash's endorsement "for the sum of the Deficiency of the State tax Joseph Nash had to collect one half to be paid in six months and the other half in twelve months—Said notes to be on interest and for cash." In case of failure to produce these notes by August 29th the town was to take land of Zenas Nash appraised by Col. White, Col. Maxwell and Rev. Mr. Leavitt, all three of Heath.

SHAY'S INSURRECTION

In common with other towns, Rowe felt the pressure of the times immediately following the Revolutionary War. The drafts for men and money, the scarcity of money and its depreciation in value, the increase in debts, and the want of confidence in government, were "grievances" as they were then called. On August 22, 1786 conventions were held in the counties of Hampshire, Berkshire and Middlesex to "consult on matters of public grievance." About 1500 men had actually assembled under arms at Northampton and prevented the sitting of the court.

In December 1786, Daniel Shays, who had been a captain in a Massachusetts regiment, marched into Springfield at the head of 300 malcontents and seized the court-house. A month later, state troops put down the insurrection and Shays escaped to Vermont receiving his pardon in 1788.

There is a tradition in Rowe that one of the Steels, for whom Steel Brook was named, was a sympathizer if not an active participator in this insurrection. At any rate the town on October 2, 1786 chose a Committee of Safety having five members, Deacon Jonas Gleason, Nathan Foster, Eldad Corbet, Joseph Nash and Nathaniel Morrill, "to inspect any Disorders that may arise in this Town in this Juncture of time in which civil law is so much Disturbed and to suppress Criminality as much as possible." At the same meeting the town voted "that Joseph Steel and James Trask criminals, be kept Prisoners in and on the cost of this Town until the said Committee can consult with some other Town or Towns to know what further measures may be taken with them." The records reveal nothing further, but Pressey describes an old yellowed paper bearing the signature of William Steel which was an "original Shays' Rebellion document." He states that Steel and eight other men of the locality were Shays' insurgents and that they surrendered to Col. Hugh Maxwell and received their arms again after taking the oath

of allegiance at the hands of Squire Wells. With these threads Mr. Pressey weaves a pretty romance with the beautiful valley of upper Steel Brook as the scene, William Steel as Robin Hood, and Elder Carpenter, the first Baptist minister, as Friar Tuck. At that time Samuel Carpenter was a boy eleven years old and was living in Brattleboro. He did not come to Rowe until about 1806 or 1807.

This paper was shown to me by the late Mrs. Anna Wells Henry, great grand-daughter of John Wells to whom it is directed. It is dated,

Heath June 26, 1787. Sir please deliver to Ebenezer Ingersol, Nathan Knight, David Weer, Stephen Brown, Henry Wilson Junior, Eben Goodnow, William Steel, Silas Colton and Warren Willson their arms which are lodged in your care they paying you nine pence cash for my trouble and satifying you for yours and signing the Recept herewith Sent which shall be your Discharge for the same, from your Humble Servant

Hugh Maxwell

We, the Subscribers, having been concerned in the Rebellion in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and Since in Obedience to the Resolves of the General Court have taken and Subscribed the oath of Alegiance to this Commonwealth and thereupon delivered up our arms to Hugh Maxwell Esq. do now acknowledge that we have each of us Received of the said Hugh Maxwell our arms again and do hereby discharge him of them witness our Hands

David Weer
Ebenezer Ingersol
William Steel
Warren Willson Jun
Silas Colton
His
Nathan Knight
Mark

(no other signature)

ROADS

The earliest road in Rowe was without any doubt, a rough cart path or "bridle-way" over the mountain from Charlemont to Fort Pelham which bore the name of King's High-

way and today is called Norton's Trail. Moses Rice of Charlemont, it will be remembered, hauled timbers for the construction of the fort. The second road was probably the road to Heath, following the general the trail between Pelham and Shirley. It is likely that at first the western terminus was at the house of Cornelius Jones on what is now called the "Old Ford Farm," and that as early as 1770 it was extended to the centre of the town. The old Heath road led straight on easterly from Blakeslee's over the hill down by the Hamilton place.

The earliest road map of Rowe is that furnished to the state in 1793 by the selectmen. Two ruled parallel lines are drawn due north and south which bisect the parallelogram of Rowe. They cross Pelham Brook between the sawmill and "corn mill" of Moses Rogers. The lower section of this road is called the "south road to Charlemont" and the upper section is called the "north road to Readsborough."* Leaving the southern road just north of Rogers' mills and drawn with free hand parallel with the brook is the "southwest road to Zoar." In the exact centre on the west side of this main artery of travel is the meetinghouse. The "east road to Heath," is placed on the map exactly as it is located today, but with its western terminus at the northeast corner of the meetinghouse lot,—namely at the centre of the town. However, from the centre to Tuttle's corner** the road is drawn as a straight line, as it formerly went over rather than around the hill east of the Unitarian Meetinghouse. The "north road to Whitingham" leaving the Heath road at Tuttle's corner is drawn as a straight line.

At a town meeting March 13, 1786, the town "established" (accepted and perhaps improved) the "road from the top of

*In an old deed it is called the Bennington Road.

**Tuttle's Corner so-called as Jude Tuttle formerly lived there. Next to the Bemis-Tuttle house is perhaps the oldest existing 2-story house in town, formerly owned by H. A. Kendrick who operated the mill nearby. It is the old Gideon Chapin place.

the Mountain south of John Adamses to William Hartwells nearly as it now goes two rods wide." The town also voted

"to establish the main road through this Town east and west begins on the east line of the old Myrifield plot (200 rods west of present town line) at Capt. Benjn Browns southeast corner and David Weer's South east corner thence running westward between said lots sixty nine rods thence nearly south west eleven rods in David Weer's and fifty four rods in Lieut. Gideon Chapins land to a large rock and stones on it thence west 45 rods to the summit of a rise of ground on the west side of a small Brook (near the present East schoolhouse) to a pile of stones thence westerly 24 rods to the bridge over a large Brook (Pelham) near Gideon Chapins house (Kendrick-Tuttle place) and as it is now traveled to the sd house thence in a strait line to the south west corner of Aaron Gleason Junr farm and from thence proceeding as the road is now traveled to the meeting-house passing between Lieut. John Wells house and Barn (old Wells-Ford Farm) runs by the south side of Daniel Coons house and to the bridge North of the clay pitt* thence on the north line of Dr. I. W. Claries (Clary) farm to the pint of a ledge of rocks leaving said ledge on the north side of said road and passing between Nathan Foster Jr. and Jude Fosters Lots to the meetinghouse aforesaid from the meetinghouse southerly on a strait line to the south east corner of Willm Hartwell lot thence Westerly (opposite Edward Wright's) between sd Hartwells and Nathan Wheelers lots to the bridge near the southwest corner of said Hartwells lot thence running west about 10 D north as it is now traveled passing between Phinehas Woods and Michael Wilsons farm and on the north line of Nathaniel Morrills farm from thence between Benjn Shumways (Abbott White's) and Jonathan Whites farm on the south line of Daniel McAllesters farm and in the same direction to the west line of Lieut. Abner Chapins farme (Truesdell-Hazelton) and closes. The above road established four rods in width from end to end."

At the same time (March 13, 1786) the town voted to "establish a road two rods wide" from "William Steels** North east corner" to Lieut. Abner Chapin's "to the main road leading east and west through the Town." This is the west

*The Clay pit is still to be seen though grassed over, and also many pieces of bricks.

**In April 1792 it is called the "Old House Lately occupied by Wm. Steel."

road from the late Obed Peck's to the foot of the hill by Steel Brook.

The road* from Tuttle's corner northward over the top of Streeter Hill to Whitingham was established in March, 1789. It was not until 1851 that the road was built from the Veniah Porter place to the west of Streeter Hill to the state line, in order to connect with "the new road lately built by Whittingham." The Zoar road was established in March 1796 as follows:—

"a road leading from Moses Rogers to Zoar laid out by the Selectmen December 11th one thousand seven hundred and ninety-five, a turn to be made from the old road this side of Reuben Clarks new house into the edge of the mowing land, and to come into the old road again south of said house, then to turn across a corner of the woods to the left hand and to come into the old road again North of Isaac Capers house, then running by said Capers in the old road to a steep below sd Capers; then to turn to the left hand into a road newly cut out, and down to the banks of the mill Brook and on said banks to Fellows mill thence on the south side of a rise of land by said Brook and a straight course to a marked maple near the banks of a small Brook from thence to a marked hemlock south of Stephen Goodnows house from thence to the road beyond sd Goodnows, said road to be two rods wide."

The original is still traceable from the sugar house some fifty rods west of the Rice-Wheaton-Truesdell house, following along the brow of the ridge and joining the present road above the Streeter-Maxam house; again to the west and close to the late Joseph Kings's house hugging the hillside and descending abruptly until it joins the present road near a cellar-hole a few rods from the mouth of Steel Brook. There is a tradition that this first road was built along the ridge in order that travellers could see any lurking Indians! In early times there was a branch road leading from this old Zoar road near the above-mentioned sugar house northerly

*Now called the Leshure Road. The old sky-line road over Streeter Hill was open in 1869 according to Beers Atlas of Windham County.

past the Sam Rice house* to the northern section of the "County Road." The Second Massachusetts Turnpike, often called "Col. White's Turnpike Road," was built in 1797 from the west line of Charlemont over Hoosac Mountain to Adams, and remained a toll road under private ownership until 1833. Various stage lines from Boston to Albany used it before the days of the railroads. Frederic J. Wood is of the opinion that the first bridge over the Deerfield above Zoar was built in 1817. If correct then the Deerfield must have been crossed by a ford near the old Indian ford just above the mouth of Cold River, before 1817.

The first road from David Ballou's near the present Monroe Four Corners was laid out in 1804 in a straight easterly line down Monroe Mountain fording the Deerfield and up the Rowe slope. Later that year, the town voted to petition the General Court "for assistance to build a Bridge over Deerfield River by a lottery or any other way," but apparently without success. David Ballou and Capt. William Taylor were the committee to send the petition. In 1834 the Selectmen were instructed to erect "a sufficient railing on the road near the Monroe Bridge for the security of travelrs."

In March 1787, the road from the meetinghouse northerly past the Robert Wells farm to the Vermont line was definitely established as follows:—

"Beginning at a marked beech tree near the Meeting house and running Northerly on the line between Nathan Foster Junrs land the Widow Green and Doctor Heatons until it comes within about six Rods of Capt. Corbets land then turning eastward to Capt. Corbets land four rods East of said Fosters Northwest corner from thence North across Capt. Corbets land to land formerly belonging to Eliot Makepeace thence north 20 rods thence Northwesterly to Abel Clarys land to John McNitts and Standish Fosters land thence North on the line between said McNitt and Foster to Asa Fosters and Ebenr Ingersols land thence on the line between said Foster

*Until recently, the main door of the Sam Rice house was on the east side facing this ancient road, now obliterated, though E. B. Sibley and the author recall traces of it.

and Ingersol to Joseph Cresseys and Uphams Corner thence Northerly to Vermont Line."

The section north of the Robert Wells farm to the old Preserved Smith homestead,—later occupied by Sibleys, Wheelers and Pikes,—was discontinued in 1866 and the section beyond to the state line in 1878, but the latter section could be travelled until August 1920, when a cloudburst destroyed a portion.

The first road southerly from Chapin's Mills (Tuttle's Corner) passing the southeastern base of Adams Mountain to the Charlemont line was laid out in 1792.* The present "Mine Road" was built in 1848 paralleling a few rods to the eastward the original 1792 road which is still traceable. The road from the old centre past the present centre schoolhouse through the four corners near the Hicks-Shippee farm was described in 1786 as running "on the center line of the old Myrifield plot excepting at a ledge of rocks."

Some of the roads in Rowe were so-called "bridle-ways"** (often with gates) which were passed upon by the selectmen and then "established," or as we say nowadays, "accepted," by the town. For instance there used to be a bridle-way from the "cabinet shop of the late William Todd to the Factory," and the county commissioners in 1840 ordered the town to make it a road, but no definite action was taken.

In 1845 the town voted 50 to 36 not to build a "new road leading from Lambs Saw Mill in Colerain through Heath to the Factory in Rowe agreeable to a petition of Daniel G. Spooner and others."

*Two cellar-holes on this old road and the original house-site on the Solomon Todd farm are the basis for this having been called the Streeter Neighborhood.

**The road which crossed Pelham Brook below the Fellows-Hyde mill (the late Charles King's) leading easterly up the mountain, and thence down to the school-house at Zoar, was established in 1800 and discontinued in 1817, remaining a "bridle-way".

In 1838 the town voted 26 to 3 against the petition to the county commissioners for "a Road through the north part of Rowe leading from Colerain to Bennington." A month later 14 voters out of 26 present voted "to sustain the petition of William Taylor and others for the location of a highway through the north part of the town in case there is a prospect of the same being constructed through to Bennington," but apparently nothing came of it.* This William Taylor lived on the Amos Underwood place.

Beginning with Levi Hawks' petition in 1839 there was an agitation every year or two for a road from "Zoar Bridge so called, up the north bank of Deerfield River." It was consistently voted down or passed over, and in 1847 the town voted it down by the decisive majority of 60 to 0.

The short road "running north from the Dea Thomas place, so called through the Darling lot to Whitingham line," was discontinued in 1870. They began to talk of discontinuing the road leading from Veniah Porter's over Streeter Hill as early as 1862, and in 1872 it was voted to discontinue, but it was not legally closed until 1887. In 1872 the short section from Allen Peck's to Lucius Veber's was accepted; and the old section, which started from a point some 80 rods east of Allen Peck's was discontinued.

An old road is clearly traceable from the main road leading to the Cressy Neighborhood past William Steel's old cellar-hole and following Steel Brook Valley for some distance until it crosses over to the Peck-Veber-Zoar road.

*This is an interesting vote as it reveals a project (never consummated) of continuing northwesterly the present road from Colrain up the West Branch through North Heath to Veniah Porter's four corners. From the latter point it might have continued in a general northwesterly direction to Amos Underwood's, thence through the woods to the old Readsborough Road down to Lime Hollow at Sherman's. Lime Hollow, and its ancient lime kilns, are under water due to the dam at Sherman's Power Plant, down river a mile from the former bridge over the Deerfield.

There is one other cellar-hole upon the heights some 50 rods to the southwest of this old road which marks the site of the Carpenter Bliss homestead. The original Peck-Veber road swung sharply to the east, crossing this old Steel Brook road and coming out at William Taylor's. On either side of Steel Brook near its source are two ancient cellar-holes.* The road down to the Tunnel, namely from E. Henry Hawks' "to County Road near the Hoosac Quarry" was not accepted until 1884, although it was travelled in substantially the same location in the early 1860's. The road north past the Demons, Bolton and Underwood places was established in 1822 although it had been allotted in the deeds of 1777. In 1837 the road was discontinued which crossed from the Bolton place to the Wheeler-Wilcox place north of Edgar Pike's, and which accommodated the school children in that part of the town.

Tradition has it that the first Florida bridge was an open one "built partly of logs, which becoming unsafe was set on fire by persons unknown." A covered one replaced the open one, and a second covered one just finished was taken off by the flood of 1869. The latter part of this tradition coincides with the town records, for in May 1869 the town instructed the selectmen to contract for the "building of Florida Bridge so called, in connection with Florida and Charlemont," and in August of the same year the town voted to change the location "60 rods or less below" the old site. The torrential rains came later and the special town meeting to borrow money to make good the damage was called for November 2nd. After months of haggling the town in February 1872 decided to pay its share of the new bridge and to borrow $2000 for the same. The trouble lay in the fact that one corner of the old bridge (upstream) was in Rowe, having been so surveyed by the farsighted Charlemont

*These were on the old "Burton Road", which climbed the heights by an easier grade than the present road, and continued southwesterly to the Churchill and Granger places.

selectmen when the line was first perambulated, while no part of the new bridge was within the limits. The Florida bridge was replaced by the present iron structure in 1886.

In 1827 it was voted to join Monroe (which had been a town for five years) in building a bridge across the Deerfield, and in 1853 it was voted to rebuild half of the Monroe Bridge. This was a narrow covered bridge, 115 feet in length according to the map of 1830; and before the advent of the paper mills, it was a wild and picturesque spot. Later it was replaced by an iron bridge which was swept away in 1901 and was replaced by the present iron structure.

In 1807 the town voted to join Hawley and Charlemont in petitioning the General Court for grant of a lotterry "for the purpose of building a Bridge over Deerfield River on the County road leading from Charlemont through said Hawley to Northampton . . . ." This county road ran southerly from the Charlemont covered bridge through Hawley, the edge of Plainfield and Ashfield to Goshen and so on, and was doubtless the route taken by delegates from Rowe to county conventions at Hatfield* or Northampton. It is marked on the map of 1788.

In 1817 the town was willing to allow a lottery to build three bridges over the Deerfield, but the following year it voted against the county building a bridge "at the falls" (Shelburne Falls), at a cost of $1500.

In May 1825 the town procured a hearse and harness and built a hearse house. In 1850, "the committee chosen to examine the Hearse House, Hearse, etc. report that the frame is worth repairing and recommend the necessary repairs—That the wheels and perhaps the shafts to the hearse are all that are worth anything and recommend a hearse to be constructed after the modern fashion also recommend the purchase of a new Pall Cloth." In 1883 a hearse was procured

*In March 1787, L't. John Wells was allowed "£ 1-0- for Time and Expenses for going to a Convention at Hatfield in May 1786."

and the following year the town built the hearse house on the Pond Road.* Some years since a party unknown amused himself by firing several shots through the door, thereby damaging the hearse. The calibre of the bullets was found to be .25 while most of the small rifles in the neighborhood (including the writer's) were .22.

The first mention of guide-posts was at the town meeting in May 1795, when agreeable to an act of the General Court, it was "Voted that the selectmen set up guide posts and keep the same in repair in this Town." In 1822 guide-posts were erected "At the angle of the Roads leading to Charlemont and Zoar near the Mills, At the angle of the Roads leading to Heath and to Whitingham and Readsborough near the Meetinghouse, At the angle of the Road, leading to Heath and to Whitingham, and also at the angle of the said Heath Road and the Road leading to Charlemont." In 1840, it was "Voted to place guide posts—one near the store of Reed and Drury, Readsborough, Monroe, Charlemont and Heath,** one near James Fords directing to Whitingham, one near John W. Wheelers directing to Whitingham—one near the east School House directing to Charlemont, Heath and Rowe."

*In 1956 the town voted to spend $500 to build the present hearse house in the West Cemetery to preserve the old horse-drawn hearse for its antique value.

**The north road led to Readsborough, the west to Monroe, south to Charlemont, and east to Heath and Whitingham.

CHAPTER V

"Upon this rock I will build my church."
Matthew 16-18

It is believed that Rev. Cornelius Jones built his house near the old Wells-Ford house three-quarters of a mile east of the subsequent centre of the town, and that the dwelling was made of planks split from white ash timber, floor of the same material, and the roof covered with long split shingles. In this house, Mr. Jones preached to the people every Sabbath until 1770 when a small church edifice was built on land given by himself near the southwest corner of the cross roads at the old centre. Deacon Thomas in 1845 stated that it was "about the size of the Orthodox house," that it was covered with "a single coat of rough boards," with a door in the centre of the south side, and "instead of glass windows to defend the inmates from the sweeping blast, it was surrounded by a dense forest of ever-green." The early records were destroyed in the parsonage fire; and we find little that is authentic before 1785, when the town voted to build a pound near "the meeting-house." We do know, however, that the Church of Christ in Myrifield with nine signatures to the Covenant was organized at a much earlier date, and that by 1776 the number had materially increased. The church-roll of 1776 contained the names of Aaron and Eunice Gleason, William and Mary Hartwell, Abiah and Abigail Lamb, James and Thankful Thayer, Hannah Thomas, Mary McAllister, Jedediah, Elizabeth and Rachel Lamb, Mary Wilson, Lucy Chapin, Esther Eddy, Gideon Chapin, Sarah Chapin, Abigail and Henry Wilson. April 4, 1785 the town voted "to hire preaching two months the year ensuing." It will be remembered that two tythingmen were chosen the previous week. The following year, March 13, 1786, the town voted to choose a committee "to take cognizance of the old rate bill respecting building the meetinghouse which

is now standing in this Town." Three years later, March 9, 1789, Asa Foster was granted £3-2 "for making 168 squares of sash fixing windows and setting glass for the meetinghouse." Apparently extensive repairs were made in the fall of 1787 as many small items appear in the old records.

Plans for a new and larger meetinghouse began to be discussed, and in April 1791 the town voted to build "a Meetinghouse fifty feet long and forty feet wide." Nothing came of it because the voters could not agree upon the location. The trouble was over the question of the centre of the town. Some thought that the land west of the Deerfield would never be settled, or if it were there would be no communication with the main town. Through the rest of that year and for a good part of the next, the controversy increased. There were votes and counter votes. An article in the warrant called for a petition to the General Court at Boston to appoint a committee to determine the location, but happily there were enough with either a sense of humor or local pride to vote down this proposal.

Finally, it was decided to build the new meetinghouse on the lot on which the old one stood; and a new structure was erected in the summer and fall of 1793. According to Deacon Thomas the frame was prepared under the leadership of Asa Foster and was ready for raising about July first. The men were assisted by the contents of a barrel of rum, and everyone had a bountiful meal prepared by the mothers, wives and daughters. The top timbers were put in place the following day under charge of Jesse Howard. Then a board floor was laid, a work-bench placed under the pulpit window with steps to ascend it, and some boards nailed up in front for a pulpit. The seats were of boards. If the town's vote was carried out, the new building was painted a cream color with red roof and green doors. It was entirely completed for several years, as we find a number of warrants containing articles "for further finishing the meetinghouse;" but at length, at a meeting December 24, 1801,

the town was imbued with the Christmas spirit and took definite action to finish the structure. A porch was added the following year. In 1798 mention was made of east and south doors.

Nov. 1, 1802 the town voted to seat the meetinghouse "according to what each Person shall pay on the three last grants of money that was granted for finishing the Meeting House." Below we give the list which was submitted by the committee and which was accepted with a few changes.

	Pew
Isaac Langdon Lieut. Gideon Chapin	24
Capt. William Taylor Noah Brown	11
Asa Foster 2nd Standish Foster	10
Lemuel Barret Archibald Thomas	25
Rev. Preserved Smith Col. John Wells	23
John Hiberd Thaddeus Merril	22
Caleb Blakeslee Ebenezer Hayward	14
Jonas Gleason Jonathan Marsh	7
Josiah Carpenter Ezra Tuttle	17
John Cheney Moses Streeter	30
Silas Colton Ebenezer Nims	29
Asa Foster Martin Wilson	28
Abijah Barr Isaac Slatter	27
Doc. Haynes Cornelius Barr	15
Isaac Pierpont Capt. Zebulon Benton	16
Jacob Bliss Benjamin Shumway	31
Reuben Gleason Joshua Dodge	1
Nathan Foster Joel Hill	12
Benjamin Stone Capt. Nath. Corbet	9
Isaiah Adams Gideon Chapen	20
Moses Bullard Ambrose Potter Jr.	26
Baldwin Potter Joel Hall	21
William Langdon Jedediah Barret	2
Thomas Goodnow Jr. Jonas Gleason Jr.	2
Jonah Hill Amze Langdon Nathaniel Gleason Amos Richardson	6
John Brown John Blodget Jude Cross Sylvester Nash	15
Charles Basset Timothy Knolton Jr. Asa Pane Warren Wilson	1

	Pew
Henry Wilson Jr. John Fisher Stephen Brown	4
Job Stafford Humphrey Taylor Paul Knolton	6
Titus Todd James Brown Noadiah Warner	2
Isaac Cooper Stephen Gleason Shuman Langdon	13
Amos Willmath Abijah Weers Eliphalet Cutting	19
Simeon Barr Thomas Cheney John Williams	5
Lewis Chandler John Thomas Samuel Bolton	32
Eli Tuttle Jonathan White Consider Brown	8
John Adams Thomas Goodnow Judah Goodspeed Amos Bradley	3
Jelah Munson Ebenezer Allin Shadrach Chapin Col. Benjamin Otis	
Heman Kintfield Nahum White Rufus Streeter Timothy Carpenter	16
Daniel Warner James Streeter Samuel Bell Orrin Thurber	5
Eanos Lamb Jonathan White Jr. Jeremiah Shumway Ebenezer Knolton	10
Abner Chapin Jr. Amos Gleason Jonathan Fisher Joseph Chapin	7
Charles Hibard Levi Tuttle Ebenezer Fellows Jonathan Cressy	11
Appolos Carpenter David Below (Ballou) John Huntington David Thomas	4
Jacob Briant Elisha Briant Israel Braley Matthew Barr	13
Levi Ray Samuel Lamson Gideon Langdon Nathaniel Corbet Jr.	12

May 1, 1804 it was voted

'to asign the two wall Pews next to the Pulpit to the old People and the Pew at the Corner at the left hand of the alley next to the Deacons Seat to our Minister and that the rest of the Pews in the Lower part of the Meeting House be seated three Families in a Pew on the last Highway Tax . . . . and that they draw their Pews

after being closed and that the Galleries be seated according to the discretion of the seaters."

"The Inhabitants were classed and chose their Pews as follows:—"

Class		Pew
1.	Rev. P. Smith John Wells, Esq.	23
3.	Archibald Thomas Nathan Foster Charles McCloud	25
4.	Caleb Blakslee Lemuel Barrett Noah Brown	22
5.	Standish Foster Thaddeus Merril Benjamin Shumway	12
6.	Pardon Haynes Ebenezer Nims Benjamin Stone	
7.	Asa Foster Jacob Bliss Joel Hill	31
8.	Jonathan Marsh Zebulon Benton Isaac Slatter	14
9.	Jonas Gleason Reuben Gleason Joshua Dodge	26
10.	Baldwin Potter Noadiah Warner John Hibberd	21
11.	Moses Streeter Abijah Ware Josiah Carpenter	
12.	Gideon Chapin Jr. Moses Bullard Martin Wilson	28
13.	Benjamin Otis Shadrach Chapin Henry Wilson Jr.	29
2.	Gideon Chapin Isaac Langdon William Taylor	24
14.	Silas Colton Ebenezer Hayward Ambrose Potter Jr.	20
15.	Consider Brown Stephen Gleason Isaiah Adams	7
16.	Job Stafford Stephen Brown John Cheney	1
17.	Isaac Cooper Joel Hall Sarah Taylor	
18.	Judah Goodspeed Cornelius Barr Amos Wilmarth	16
19.	Titus Todd Nahun White Lewis Chandler	17
20.	John Thomas Ezra Tuttle Simeon Barr	6
21.	Isaac Pierpont Paul Knowlton James Brown	4
22.	Abijah Barr Gideon Langdon Thomas Cheney	27
23.	Samuel Ballou Asa Pine Ebenezer Allen	2
24.	Jonathan Cresey Timothy Knowlton Jr. Jedediah Barret	5

Class		Pew
	John Williams	
25.	Jonathan White	19
	Jonas Gleason Jr.	
	William Langdon	
26.	Samuel Lamson	32
	John Brown	
	Levi Ray	
27.	Sylvester Nash	13
	Selah Munson	
	Charles Winchester	
28.	Eliphalet Cutting	8
	David Balleau	
	Charles Hibberd	
29.	Thomas Goodnow Jr.	
	Nathanial Gleason	18
	Horace Thurber	
30.	John W. Blodget	
		Gallery
	Charles Basset	1
	Jonah Hill	
31.	John Hall	Below
	Amos Richardson	3
	James Streeter	
32.	David Thomas	2
	Amzi Langdon	
	Rufus Streeter	
33.	Timothy Carpenter	6
	Appolos Carpenter	
	Ezra Bradley	
34.	John Hibberd Jr.	15
	Jude Tuttle	
	Abner Chapin Jr.	
35.	Samuel P. Nims	14
	Ebenezer Fellows	

Class	Pew
Widow Colton	
Widow Ward	
Widow Wilmarth	
Widow Goodspeed	
Widow Thomas	

Class		Pew
	Stephen Woodward	
36.	Jude Cross	3
	John Huntington	
	Caleb Carpenter	
37.	Samuel Negus	
	Daniel Warner	
	Ezra Brown	
38.	Samuel Carpenter	
	Elisha Briant	
		Gallery
	Stookly Carpenter	
39.	Jeremiah Shumway	
	Amos Gleason	
	Joseph Chapin	
	Jesse Gleason	
40.	Noah Brown Jr.	
	Nathaniel Corbet Jr.	
	Thomas Chapin	
	Archibald Taylor	
	Stephen Brown 2nd	
		Gallery Pews
41.	Alfred Olds	
	Septimeus Foster	
	Martin Dier	
	Nathan Wheeler	
	Matthew Barr	
	Henry Wilson	
	Jonathan Marsh	
	Mr. Dodge	
	Ambrose Potter	
	Aaron Gleason	
	Widow Nash	
	Widow Brown	
	John Adams	
	Nathaniel Corbet	
	Hezekiah Pierpont	
	Thomas Goodnow	
	Ephraim Hill	

Pew

"We assign five Pews on the North end of the Gallery to the young women Beginning west to count and also the front Seats in the Galleries to the Singers."

Rev. Preserved Smith was ordained as the first regular pastor November 21, 1787, although Rev. Abisha Colton had done some preaching the previous year. Mr. Smith was dismissed May 30, 1804, and his connection with Rowe is so interesting that we reserve another place for its discussion. After his dismissal, the town invited Rev. Freeman Sears of Natick, but Mr. Sears declined. The town made him a second offer with an increase in salary from $333.33 to $500, but Mr. Sears remained obdurate.

Rev. Jonathan Gilmore next received a call to settle, which he accepted. However, the council, when called to install him, found only a small majority in his favor, and they declined to install him.

Rev. Jonathan Keith became the second settled pastor, Jan. 6, 1808. He was a native of Bridgewater and a graduate of Brown in the Class of 1805. At his own request he was dismissed from the Rowe church June 10, 1812, after the town in 1811 had refused to pay his "debt at Deerfield" amounting to $100. Again Rev. Preserved Smith settled as the pastor, December 2, 1812, and remained over nineteen years until his resignation March 10, 1832. His successors were Rev. William L. Stearns, 1833-1849; Rev. Stillman Barber,* 1850-1852; Rev. Increase Sumner Lincoln, 1853-1860; Rev. Hiram Norton, 1861-1864; Rev. Levi Woodbury Ham, 1864-1866; Rev. William M. Bicknell, 1867-1885; Rev. John Mason W. Pratt, 1886-1888; Rev. Herman Haugerud, 1393-1895; Rev. Samuel Thomson, 1895-1896; Rev. Edward P. Pressey, 1896-1899; Rev. Walter Knight, 1900-1902; Rev. Margaret B. Barnard, 1902-1916; Rev. Robert M. L. Holt, 1916-1920; Rev. Mary L. Leggett, 1920; Rev. Thomas H. Weston of Greenfield supplied the pulpit between 1885 and 1886, and Rev. Daniel H. Rogan of Athol and Mrs. Lyche of

*Rev. Stillman Barber married the author's grandparents, Danforth Whiting and Laura Ballou, in Monroe in 1851. In a day-book of Elias Keith, who made furniture in the one-story tenement near the town-hall, are several items purchased by Rev. Barber in 1850-51.

Warwick between 1888 and 1893. The Society was incorporated in 1911. In recent years, services in the summer and early fall months have been conducted by the following: Rev. Anita T. Pickett, 1921-1925; Rev. J. C. Allen, 1926-1929; Rev. McGlenon, 1930; Rev. J. C. Allen, 1931-1934.

In 1800 a Methodist class was formed. By 1828 the number had increased to 60, when a meetinghouse was erected on the knoll east of the bridge by which the road to Heath crosses Pelham Brook. The land was deeded by Solomon Reed to Elisha Brown, Horace Blakeslee, Josiah W. Reed and John I. Bassett, Trustees. The following were preachers: Rev. Messrs. Elijah Ward, Timothy Carpenter, Samuel Carpenter, Shadrach Bostwick, Peter Van Ness, Michael Coate, Joseph Mitchell, Joseph Crawford, Freeman Bishop, Elijah R. Sabin, Daniel Ostrander, Daniel Brumley, C. Hammond, J. W. Lewis, Wm. Bardwell, Edward A. Manning, L. B. Clarke, J. W. Jordan, Edward Day, Moses Spencer, G. R. Bent, Lorenzo White, Randall Mitchell, E. J. Stevens, N. J. Merrill, John H. Lord, W. H. Adams, Alfred Noon, A. M. Osgood, W. E. Dwight, W. E. Knox, Burtis Judd, and L. P. Frost. The church did not flourish for many years; and Holland writing in 1855 stated that the society was not then prosperous. The writer some years ago, found the bible in place on the pulpit opened at Lamentations, mute evidence of the Society's decline. Samuel Woffenden wrote in his diary, "The last preaching service held in the old Methodist Church was in 1889, the Pastor was Rev. Emmaneul Charlton a Swede; he also preached in Charlemont." But in 1870 notices of town meetings were posted at the East Schoolhouse instead of at the "East Church."

In November 1797, the town voted to "discharge a number of Baptists from the sallery tax," including Isaac Slatter, Job Stafford, Nathan Holton, Jacob Bliss, and Cornelius Barr. Services were held in private houses and in the West Schoolhouse; and July 15, 1810, the baptist church was organized with 27 members. The first meetinghouse was built in

1835 near the west schoolhouse, close to the site of the Miller-Ayers house. Mrs. Peck describes it as follows:—

"The house was painted white when built, with three windows on each side and two in the rear. The inside walls were white with an arched ceiling. The pulpit was between the two doors and the window back of it had a parted white curtain trimed with fringe. The other windows had white curtains in later years. There was one aisle with pews or slips, six on each side that would seat about eight grown persons and two shorter slips across each end of the open space in front. There were two rows of seats across the rear end, which were the singers' seats, each row rising a step higher. A stove in front of the north row of slips with pipe passing over the aisle, a red bookcase at the end of one of the shorter pews, a red table, and two elm seated chairs completed the furniture . . . The house was lighted in the evening by candles or lamps on the pulpit, and table below, and by candles in little candlesticks in front of tin reflectors on the walls between the windows. Soon after the meetinghouse was built the singing was accompanied by a violin, and after that by a bass viol, but for several years a melodeon or cottage organ was carried in on Sunday."

In May 1876 the parsonage was sold for $250 and the meetinghouse for $40 and the money applied toward building the present Baptist meetinghouse below the village school. This was dedicated December 6, 1876. The bell was acquired in 1885. The house and lot above the school house were purchased for a Parsonage in April 1890. The old meetinghouse was moved southwest to the Hibbard-Kiley place where it now forms the main part of the Kiley-Truesdell house.

Elder Samuel Carpenter became the first pastor of the Baptist Society in 1810 and continued until 1821. His successors were Rev. Arad Hall, 1824-1833; Rev. Edward Davenport, 1835; Rev. Nathaniel Ripley, 1840-1845; Rev. B. F. Remington, 1845-1847; Rev. James Parker, 1847-1850; Rev. George Carpenter, 1850-1854; Rev. Erasmus D. Fish, 1854-1865; Rev. Charles Brooks, 1865-1868; Rev. I. M. Willmarth, 1868-1870; Rev. A. A. Millard, 1870-1871; Rev. George Carpenter, 1871-1873; Rev. Rufus Smith, 1874-1875; Rev. H. C.

Coombs, 1875-1877; Rev. Jacob Davis, 1877-1889; Rev. Charles G. Simmons, 1890-1892; Rev. Alfred D. Barter, 1893-1897; Rev. C. J. Harding, 1897-1898; Rev. H. C. Buffum, 1899-1901; Rev. Otis Darby, 1901-1904; Rev. J. E. Dinsmore, 1904-1907; Rev. Rolla Hunt, 1908-1910; Rev. Luther Holmes, 1910-1912; Rev. C. W. Sables, 1912; Rev. Leslie B. Moss, 1913; Rev. J. R. Lawrence, 1915-1916; Rev. D. T. Richards, 1916-1918; Rev. S. A. Caldwell, 1918-1922—who lived in Florida, which town he served with Rowe and Monroe. From 1922 until December 1927, the pulpit was supplied by students from Mt. Hermon. Then Rev. A. A. Lawrence, Dec. 1927-Sept. 24, 1928; Rev. Chas. I. Osterhout from Oct. 7, 1928 to 1947, serving also the Baptist church in Florida where he lived in the parsonage.

Rev. Samuel P. Everett was for some years a member of the church and preached at various times between 1866 and 1868. He also filled the pulpit of the Baptist church in Whitingham, Vermont, (six miles north of Rowe) at various times, and was the regularly settled pastor there from June 1, 1870 to January 1, 1872.

To return to the old meetinghouse at the centre of the town. In May 1814 the following ambitious vote was passed, —To raise $100 to repair and paint the meetinghouse. "Voted to paint the body of the house a French yellow the roof a Chocolate Colour & the inside a Light Blue." But this action was rescinded shortly after and $15 was appropriated instead. During the next few years we find considerable discontent over the seating. The proper solution was found in 1845 when the pews or slips as they were called, were auctioned off to the highest bidders, and the proceeds used to defray the cost of the new edifice.

Rev. Preserved Smith changed his theological views and became a Unitarian in 1821, and his congregation soon accepted this denomination. March 10, 1832 he made his last prayer in Rowe at a meeting when he resigned. The follow-

ing December the church extended a call to Rev. William L. Stearns who settled the following month. In the meantime the Second Congregational Church (Orthodox) was organized April 10, 1833 with only three members, who worshipped in a barn. In 1834 they built a meetinghouse just south of the old Unitarian meetinghouse, which they used until 1856, when it was made over into a public hall. A decade later it was moved three-quarters of a mile down the hill and acquired the name of Union Hall, perhaps because Orthodox, Unitarians and Baptists have each held services in it in the hard winter months.

The Orthodox society by 1853 included 28 members. The first pastor was Rev. John C. Thompson, who was ordained in 1835. He was dismissed in June 1837, and succeeded by Rev. Andrew Govan, September 1838-1842. Rev. Benjamin F. Clarke was settled from 1843 to 1850 and was succeeded by Rev. J. Pomeroy. When their meetinghouse was moved down the hill, the society had diminished to such an extent that it became advisable to discontinue services.

In 1845, the "Church of Christ in Rowe," as the old society, now Unitarian, was called, built the third meetinghouse, a few rods east of the intersection of the roads. It was modelled on the plans of the churches at Greenfield and Charlemont and cost $1673.07. The writer well remembers attending services in 1898. The present stone and wood structure was built in 1907, at what is now the center of Rowe three-quarters of a mile south of the old center, and is erected on the site of the Union Hall which latter was sold to Arthur Fisk and removed across Pelham Brook. The new meetinghouse cost $5916.36 of which $5000 was given by Frederic E. Smith as a memorial to his great-grandfather Preserved Smith.

CHAPTER VI

PRESERVED SMITH IN ROWE

"And I will raise me up a faithful priest."
1 Samuel 2-35

At the spring town meeting, March 19, 1787, the voters appropriated the sum of fifteen pounds "for the use of the gospel in this Town," and chose Deacon Jonas Gleason and Henry Wilson "a Committee to provid Preaching." At the same meeting Nathan Foster was allowed 18 shillings "for his horse and spending Money after a candidate" and Nathan Foster, Jr. 16 shillings "for his services after a candidate." In the summer of 1787 Rev. Preserved Smith, a young divine* one year out of college, and a native of the neighboring town of Ashfield (where his father, Ebenezer Smith, was a Baptist minister), came to Rowe as a candidate. He had joined the Revolutionary army at the age of sixteen and had served in five campaigns in the 5th Hampshire County Regiment commanded by Col. David Wells of Shelburne (whose daughter he was later to marry in 1788) and had been present at the surrender of Burgoyne. He had taught school winters, worked summers, and fitted himself for college with the aid of Rev. Mr. Hubbard of Shelburne. In 1786 he had graduated from Brown University. The new candidate boarded two months at the house of Benjamin Shumway for which the latter was allowed two pounds and eleven shillings, while Nathan Foster was granted 6/5 for "dineing Mr. Smith while a candidate."

A town meeting was called October 22, 1787 to see if the town would retain Mr. Smith. The records show,—"After solemn prayer to Almighty God performed by Mr. Preserved Smith the Pastor elect for direction of the Inhabitants Voted

*He was born June 25, 1759 which would make him 28 years old.

unanimously to concur with the churches choice of Mr. Preserved Smith to be the Pastor of this church and People." His salary was fixed at 150 pounds; namely 50 pounds "at or before the first February next, and Fifty pounds the First of November 1788, and fifty pounds the first of November 1789, the whole to be paid in neat cattle" as incouragement to settle." This vote seemed confusing so they voted to pay him 50 pounds for the first year's salary with an annual increase of 3 pounds until the sum reached 65 pounds.* Again, lest there be a misunderstanding, another vote was passed that the salary be paid in the following articles—"beef fed by grass at 16/8 per C. porke well fatted at 6/0 per score wheat at 4/0 and rie at 3/0 per bushel and indian corn at 2/5 per bushel the above articles to be of good quality Bulls and Stags excepted."

November 21st was set for the ordination ceremony and the previous Wednesday was set aside as a "day of solemn fasting and prayer to God for a Blessing on their endeavors." The great day and the dignitaries arrived. Lieut. John Wells entertained the ordaining council and Mr. Smith's friends, for which he was later allowed five pounds and nine shillings—We quote from the records:—

"Convened at Rowe Novr 20th 1787

An Ecclesiastical Council consisting of Churches in Greenfield Conway Shelburn Leveret & Deerfield by their Elders and Messengers

Elders	Messengers	
Rev'd Messrs.		
Roger Newton	with Mr. Joseph Wells	Greenfield
John Emerson	Dn Jona Root	Conway
Robert Hubbard	Col David Wells	Shelburne
Henry Williams	Dn Jona Field	Leveret
John Taylor	Dn Asabel Wright	Deerfield

*In 1788, citizens in working off their taxes, were allowed 4 shillings per day until August 1st., thereafter 3 shillings per day, and "half as much for oxen as for a man."

The Rev. Roger Newton was chosen Moderator and John Emerson Scribe. This Council was convened by letters missives from the Chh of Christ in Rowe for the purpose of ordaining Mr. Preserved Smith to the work of the Gospel Ministry the council being opened by prayer to God by the Moderator for his presence and Direction on this important occasion; a Committee of the Chh and Town laid before the Council their Votes and proceedings Relative to their Call, to Mr. Smith to Settle among them likewise Mr. Smith Produced a Testimonial of his Chh Relation & his approbation to preach the Gospel the Council then proceeded to a particular and full examination of the said Mr. Smith Relative to his knowledge in Divinity his inward acquaintance with experimental Religion his principal views in devoting himself to the Ministry with his abilities and qualifications to that important work whereupon the Question being put whether this Council are satisfied with Mr. Smith Respecting the Qualifications Above Mentioned passed in the affirmative it was then put to the Council whether the way is open to procede to the Ordination of Mr. Preserved Smith to the work of the Ministry in this Town. Voted in the affirmative unanimously Voted also that the several parts of ordination should be performed in the order following (viz) That the Rev. Henry Williams open the solemnity by prayer the Rev. Robert Hubbard preach the Sermon the Rev. John Emerson Making the ordaining Prayer the Rev. Roger Newton give the Charge the Rev. John Taylor give the Right hand of fellowship the Rev. Roger Newton make the concluding Prayer.

Nov. 21st the Council agreeable to their Votes yesterday proceded to the ordination of the Rev. Preserved Smith to the work of the Ministry over the Chh & congregation in Rowe and the several parts of the ordination were performed Publicly in the Meetinghouse in said Town according to the order appointed by the Council expressed in the above mentioned Votes.

A true copy

Attest John Emerson Scribe."

All went well for nearly ten years. In 1797, however, fricion arose and Mr. Smith allowed it to be known that he desired a dismissal. The town called a meeting November 30th and voted not to dismiss him, when he came forward and made a formal request for dismissal. A committee was then appointed which on December 17th recom-

mended "that our Rev. Pastor continue as a Pastor of this Chh and People for one year from the nineteenth day of Novr last in order to see if the dificulties which are on his Mind may be removed, and if not removed in that time then the Chh: and Town is to join with Mr. Smith in calling an ecclesiastical council to advise in his dismission." The story is told how Preserved Smith and his wife were riding to church one Sunday morning. Their home was a mile north of the old center where Sibleys, Wheelers, and Pikes later were to live; and the road was then open over the hill past the "old stone house". A glance backward showed their house on fire; and help must have been slow in arriving, for all the early church records including the hell-fire covenant, were consumed. This ancient Calvinism was never renewed and for a while the Bible became the creed of th church. Perhaps Deacon Foster, hard Puritan that he was, remembered the old creed, and in this way was inspired to lead his small band of followers* until they had driven their minister from the town. The Direct Tax of 1798 describes the Smith homestead as "East on the Town Road,"—a one-story house covering 576 square feet, (32' x 18' probably) containing seven windows. Apparently he had moved from his farm on the north road. In December 1797 he bought for $100 from Asa Foster 2nd some 4¾ acres on the west side of a highway running north and south. In November 1799, he bought for $197 a parcel in Whitingham containing 78 acres. Then he left town in 1805. He returned eight years later and at once bought the Lewis Chandler place (31 acres) for $700, and six years later (Aug. 1819), he bought for $900 from Gamaliel S. Olds of Greenfield a parcel of 26 acres exclusive of the "tanyard" which comprised half an acre. Probably this included a house, perhaps the one located nearly opposite the Robert Wells house, on the east side of the road.

*These included Reuben Clark, John Cheney, and Timothy Carpenter.

Mr. Smith "as usual, combined the office of minister and farmer. But he was too much occupied with books, especially the Bible, of which he was a great student, to give much time to the farm, the care of which devolved largely on his capable, energetic wife." He was now receiving 65 pounds yearly, but it was not always paid over when due. In March 1800 the town voted not to pay 6% interest on the balance then due him. Here was one of the reasons for the "dificulties on his mind". In 1801 the salary became $216.67 and again no interest was granted on the "delinquent balance." The following article in the warrant in April 1801 shows a further widening of the breach:—"To see if the Town and the individuals who are unwilling to pay their proportion of the Rev. Mr. Smith's salary can agree and adopt measures to accommodate the misunderstanding respecting the same." Each side chose three men who in turn chose a committee of three "to settle matters of difficulty with regard to their paying their proportion". Apparently nothing was effected, for an article along the same lines, the following January, again was voted down. In March 1802 Mr. Smith's salary was increased to $250. Matters again reached a crisis in the fall of 1803. The town on September 21, 1803 voted unanimously against dismissing him. Three weeks later at a second meeting the town voted to "join the Revd Preserved Smith to Call a Council to assist in effecting a reconciliation if practicable and if not to dismiss him." A month later a third meeting was called and his salary was raised from $250 to $300. This apparently settled matters for "Mr. Smith then came into the meeting and so far settled the difficulty between him and this town that he agreed to return to his Ministerial labors." An idea of the value of the dollar in 1803 can be gained from the fact that 83 cents per day was allowed

a citizen in working off his highway taxes up to August 15, and 50 cents thereafter.*

By next spring the discontented minority under the leadership of Deacon Foster, were able to make themselves heard again, and through their efforts the breach was irreparably widened. In May 1804 the town voted to retain Mr. Smith if he "relinquished the pay for those eight Sabbaths in which he neglected to supply the Pulpit last fall". Mr. Smith then appeared at the meeting and made these proposals in writing:

"At a Legal Town meeting the Rev. Mr. Smith appeared and after exhibiting the causes of uneasiness between him and some people in this Town relative to his support gave it as his opinion that his ministerial labors can no longer be useful to the church and people in this place under existing circumstances— . . ." He then proposed that,

1. Rowe give a regular dismission and act in concert with him in convoking an ecclesiastical council.
2. Mr. Smith relinquish $38.50 for suspending eight weeks in the previous September and October.
3. The town give him notes, one payable in three months, the other March 1st next for salary now due.

These proposals the town promptly voted to accept. The Council was held in Rowe, May 29, 1804 and was composed of the ministers from Heath, Colrain, Buckland, Hawley, Charlemont and Shelburne, together with seven delegates from the same towns. A long opinion was handed down which we quote in part,—

"It appeared that difficulties had arisen respecting his support, and Mr. Smith's feelings and those of the Town as expressed to us, relative to his continuing in the ministry among them, afforded no

*In recent years the wages paid for road-work shows the inflation.

1945 — 65c per hour	$5.20 per day
1951 — 75c per hour	6.00 per day
1953 — 1.25 per hour	10.00 per day
1956 — 1.30 per hour	10.40 per day
1960 — 1.65 per hour	13.20 per day

prospect, that any permanent reconciliation could be effected, and consequently that his influence and usefulness seemed much diminished."

Accordingly they recommended his dismissal and went on to say,—

"We heartily condole with him in his present troubles and wish him Divine Support, and cheerfully recommend him as a Christian and a minister to the improvement of the Churches of Christ . . . We further recommend it to the Church and People to strive for peace, and the things whereby they may edefy one another that the God of love and Peace may dwell among them."

There is a volume expressed in these closing lines. His last discourse was based on the text from Proverbs 15;17,— "Better is a dinner of herbs where love is, than a stalled ox and hatred therewith".

The Church of Christ in Whitingham, Vermont was organized October 25, 1804, and four weeks later voted to invite Rev. Preserved Smith to settle. The town then voted to concur and offered a salary of $300. It seems that Mr. Smith had been preaching in Whitingham, but he declined the invitation to remain. In his last sermon in December 1804 he hinted at the reason, by stating that he thought it unwise for the town to settle a pastor before finishing the meetinghouse. We cannot avoid the suspicion that the reverend gentleman had a bit of Yankee shrewdness among his other good qualities.

In 1805 Mr. Smith removed to Mendon and his son Preserved, a lad of sixteen, drove the 4-ox team, laden with the household goods, a journey of 100 miles requiring six days.* Here he became interested in Arminianism, although he did not reject the Divinity. While preaching at Mendon one of his old enemies in Rowe circulated a slanderous pamphlet among his new parishioners, but happily with no ill effects.

*Rev. J. F. Moors in his funeral address (Aug. 1, 1881) on Rev. Preserved Smith, Jr. (son of Rev. Preserved Smith the subject of this sketch) quoted the son as dwelling "with special satisfaction on the fact that as he approached Mendon some of the farmers came out to meet him with a fresh team and relieved his weary oxen."

We have seen in a previous paragraph that the town of Rowe, after Mr. Smith's dismissal, May 30, 1804, tried in vain to obtain the services of Rev. Freeman Sears. Then they invited Rev. Jonathan Gilmore, but the Council was far-sighted and refused to install him because of the smallness of the majority of the townspeople who favored him. After this, Rev. Jonathan Keith became the settled pastor in January 1808. Mr. Keith asked for his dismissal in May 1812 which was granted a month later, and the causes given were the state of his health and "dissensions among the people". The records of recent years surely proves that history sometimes repeats itself.

The citizens then assembled (September 4, 1812) and voted unanimously to extend another call to Rev. Preserved Smith and to offer him $300, the same salary he had received when dismissed eight years before. Truly, this could hardly be said to have been very tempting, and it must have been his old love for Rowe and its people that prompted him to accept. The old records reveal nothing further as to Mr. Smith's second settlement in Rowe, and we can picture a fruitful and contented pastorate for many years. His salary of $300 was appropriated annually from 1812 to 1831 inclusive. March 5, 1832 the town voted "to dispense with raising Mr. Smith's Salary at this time," which is the last recorded item relating to him. He was now seventy-three years old and felt compelled to give up his charge. Here he had spent the best part of his life; he had had three children born,—Preserved, Jr., in 1789, Royal in 1799; and had buried two, Royal in 1820 aged 21, and an infant in 1791. From Rowe he went to Warwick to live with his son, where he died two years later, August 19, 1834. The inscription on his gravestone, now housed in the Memorial Church in Rowe, reads as follows:

Rev. Preserved Smith
died
August 19, 1834
Graduated at Providence 1786
Settled at Rowe 1787
Then at Mendon 1805
Again at Rowe 1812
Where he lived with an
Affectionate People till 1832
When he retired from the ministry.

Remember those who have spoken unto you the word of God. Whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation.—
Heb. 13:7.

Pressey in later years thus picturesquely writes,

"He was a great student, and talked face to face with the citizens of Rowe one and a half hours' discourses, twice a Sunday for 36 years, which with weekly lectures and other public discourses, makes it that his voice must have vibrated on this Rowe air some eight to ten thousand hours. And judging from this, together with the way his memory was revered, there must have been a great deal of Preserved Smith left in Rowe."

CHAPTER VII

SCHOOLS, LIBRARY, BURYING-GROUNDS, STAGES, ETC.

"The chief glory of New England is in her public schools."
Old Saying

The early history of the Rowe schools is based in large part on tradition. It is believed that the first school was prior to 1775 in a log cabin which stood on the site occupied later by the Wells-Ford-Goldthwaite homestead, and that the teacher was Miss Marah Jones, daughter of Cornelius Jones. The scholars were compelled to travel a considerable distance in many cases. The only books were the Bible, the Psalter, Dilworth's spelling book and an arithmetic called Young Man's Best Companion. Subsequently, several schools were held in private houses in winter and in barns in warmer weather until the incorporation of the town.

At the first town meeting, the citizens voted "to hire preaching", but made no appropriation for schools. At the second meeting, September 15, 1785, the town voted "to make but three school Divisions". The first appropriation was 30 pounds for "use of Schooling" made at the meeting in March 1787. Two and a half years later, October 30, 1789, the town voted to divide the town into two school divisions only, the "East Division to take all East of the Road leading from John Adams to Capt. Goodspeads and the west division to take all West of said road. Voted to hire a schoolmaster to keep school two Months in Each division". A committee of two was then appointed "to hire a School Master". Apparently the committee's efforts were successful, for in the following January, the town voted "that the present School Master is to keep three Months for the East part of the Town," and also voted "to hire another School Master three months to keep in the West part of the Town". In 1790 John Wells was allowed £3-3 "for Boarding School Master 14 weeks;" Isaac Langdon 13 shillings "for Boarding School Master and his Horse two weeks;" and

Gideon Chapin £1-8 for "keeping the School Masters horse fourteen weeks".

Considerable agitation arose over the matter of building schoolhouses, but no constructive action was taken at the meeting in May 1795. Nevertheless a "west schoolhouse" is mentioned in the description of a road in March 1796. In April 1797, the town set up three school divisions, North, Center and West,—and voted to build three schoolhouses. Later, the south division was added to take care of the families living east and south of Adams Mountain. In 1798 the sum of $205 was appropriated for "Building Schoolhouses".

In April 1817 the town granted $50 for a teacher "to instruct in singing sacred music." In 1900 the schoolhouses were as follows:—

Village School at the foot of the hill, one half mile below the present center. Center School, one quarter mile west of the old center. East School, a few rods east of the east burying ground. North School, on the road to Readsboro, at the junction of the Deacon Thomas cross-road. West School, north of Miller-Ayres house, one mile south of the end of the "four-rods west road". Davis Mine School, one-half mile west of the Davis Mine. Peck-Cressy or Southwest School,* one-quarter mile west of Allen Peck's homestead on the road through the Cressy Neighborhood to Hoosac Tunnel. In 1920, the sum of $2,286.37 was paid in salaries to teachers at the Village, West, Center, and Davis schools and $55 to the teacher at the North school. No sessions have been held at the Peck-Cressy school since shortly after 1900. For some years now the Village School has accommodated all the grade pupils, with daily transportation by automobile.

The town has never maintained any school above the grammar grades, but provides tuition for those desiring to attend

*The Southwest District was set off from the West in 1824.

high schools in other towns. Several have attended high schools in Charlemont and North Adams, and also the old Academy in Whitingham which flourished from 1842 to 1861. The school system used to include "prudential committees" who were chosen in each school district and who were authorized to "contract with teachers." In earliest times the school was held in houses and moved about in order "best to accommodate the whole." The school report for June 1840 shows 204 scholars between the ages of four and sixteen. At the Centre were 50, West 26, North 18, South 9, East 35, Mill 36, Southwest 26, and River 4.

In 1894 a school district was formed comprising the towns of Charlemont, Hawley, Florida and Monroe, for centralized school supervision, and in April 1897 the town of Rowe joined. All contribute to the superintendent's salary and a substantial portion is advanced by the State.

In October 1804 the town formally accepted the donation of two hundred dollars bequeathed by "Asa Foster 2nd late of Rowe Deceased for the use of Schooling as contained in his last Will and Testament." Turning to his will dated 1803, we find that his property was worth some $1500. "This gratuity (it reads) is not a sudden emotion but has for a long time been contemplated. And all the returns and respect I wish for is the good advice which many find leisure to give my orphan children with a particular regard for their interests and happiness in this world and a future world." The donation of $200 in 1803 would be equivalent to close to $1000 today.

At a special town meeting on June 10, 1960 the town voted to build a new elementary school at a cost of $500,000. This building will include five classrooms, auditorium, cafeteria and the location will be northwest of Pelham Lake Park.

LIBRARY

Rowe's Social Library was organized December 18, 1797 as the result of the efforts of Rev. Preserved Smith with

probably the assistance of Col. John Wells. The original agreement of 1797 stated the purpose of the society to be that "of promoting friendship & useful knowledge, & with a particular view of purchasing a Library, which is to be the property of said Society Jointly." The name of the "Literary Society in the town of Rowe" was adopted, and so remained until the reorganization of January 1806, when it was changed to "The Social Library in Rowe." The first officers were Col. John Wells, Librarian; William Langdon, Clerk; Asa Foster, 2nd, Treasurer; Deacon Jonas Gleason, Censor; Rev. Preserved Smith, Capt. William Taylor, and Dr. Pardon Haynes, Judges. The duties of the Librarian were to have possession of the books, and keep a catalogue and record of their cost. The Censor collected "fines and taxes" and the Judges "tried and determined all causes laid before them by the censor,"—namely, any deliquencies on the part of the proprietors. The dues the first year were $3, and a fine of 17 cents was imposed for non-attendance at a meeting and 8 1-2 cents for late attendance. Members could sell their interest to non-members only with the society's consent, but could obtain a refund of their subscription upon moving away more than twelve miles. The original members were,—John Wells, Preserved Smith, Asa Foster, 2nd, Moses Streeter, Pardon Haynes, Standish Foster, William Langdon, William Taylor, Lewis Chandler, Jonas Gleason, Zebulon Benton, Lemuel Barret, Asa Foster, Nathan Foster, Sylvester Nash, Caleb Blakslee, Noah Brown, Abel Basset, Joel Hall,* John Thomas, Jonathan White, Andrew Carnegie, Benjamin Olds, James Smith, Amos Negus, Matthew Middleditch, and Ezra Brown.

At first books could be borrowed and returned at any time, but this privilege was restricted in 1802 to the period

*Joel Hall later moved to East Charlemont where he operated Hall Tavern, a picturesque structure close to the road until it was removed to Deerfield. He was on the Rowe jury list in July 1804. Allan Healy, in a small volume, "Hall Tavern", 1939, states that Joel Hall purchased the property in 1807.

from "twelve o'clock to sunset" on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month. At the reorganization in 1806, the 77 volumes, two blank books, and "Book Desk" were sold under the hammer for $41.24 "at the house of Ezra Tuttle Inholder in Rowe," and were nearly all acquired by the new Society.

This was continued successfully until March 1869, when the town assumed charge upon agreement to pay $25 annually for its support and to provide a librarian.

A new library building in 1935 was constructed on land donated by Mrs. Grace Stanford in the village. Librarians in the new library included Mrs. Linna T. Jones, Mrs. Luria Arms, and Miss Helen O. Potter from 1935-1937. Mrs. Jessie F. Sibley became librarian in 1937 and served in this capacity until her retirement in 1955. Mrs. Dorothy N. Stevens has been serving from then to the present day.

STAGES AND STAGE-DRIVERS

Rowe, being nearly four miles from the railroad, has had to depend upon Uncle Sam's stage for mail service. The stage driver is always an important person and is on intimate terms with everyone on his route. John Ballou stands pre-eminent in the list of drivers and his route lay between Colrain and Monroe. Another stage connected Colrain and Greenfield. Later he became a merchant tailor with headquarters in the old Ford Hall at the old centre. He died in 1888.

Jacob Sherman traversed the same route. He used to leave his house, a short distance above Monroe Bridge in time to be ready to start from Rowe centre for Colrain at four o'clock in the morning with the mail and any passengers who might be going to the metropolis. It was a great event to take the stage in those days. Maturin Ballou of Monroe for 17 years drove the stage across the hills from Greenfield to North Adams. The railroad was completed as far west as the Tunnel in August 1868 and the stage route was shortened to connect Rowe directly with Zoar. Various additions have since been made to include the small

group of farms in the northwestern part of Heath known as Cyrus, and even the western part of Rowe, and more recently, Monroe Bridge. But the main line remained Zoar to Rowe.* The drivers have been Alonzo (Lon) Wilson, Horace Smith, Arthur Haynes, Jude Tuttle, Will Shumway, Charles Bishop, Leon Mishler, Will Upton, Francis M. Jackman, Floyd A. Veber, and Richard E. Shumway.

The writer well remembers being driven up the hill to Rowe by Jude Tuttle in his sleigh one winter's day; and the driver to show his skill founded on long experience, undertook without slowing up to thrust a large bunch of letters and papers bound for the western part of the town into the narrow aperture of the wooden mail box, when a sudden jerk of the horse threw him slightly off-balance and every piece fell into the snow.

The railroad early in 1868 was extended west to Shelburne Falls and travellers were compelled to continue their journey by stage to North Adams. A stage left Shelburne Falls and another left North Adams each day shortly after noon, arriving about six o'clock. Stops for change of mail were made at Charlemont, Zoar and Florida. When the railroad reached the eastern end of the terminal the route was shortened and six-horse stages were established. It was an exciting trip as the horses were driven at full trot from the top of the mountain to the foot. The roads were rough, yet no serious accident ever happened.

POUNDS

There have been town pounds at various places. In September 1785 a committee was chosen "to build a Pound at the Northwest corner of the meeting house Lot 30 feet square with poles," which was the first town pound; but

*Since the discontinuance of passenger train service west of Greenfield in 1958, the mail arrives by truck at Charlemont and thence by local stage to Rowe twice daily. The last to use a horse-drawn vehicle was William T. Upton until 1941.

it must have been a temporary affair, for in 1794 it was "voted to build a pound thirty eight feet square seven feet high from the top of the sills to be framed with sills and plates and sawed rails 12 feet long framed into posts sufficient for said pound . . . . be well underpined with stone six inches from the ground on the highest spot and the sills laid level." It was placed on the northwest corner of Ambrose Potter's lot. Mr. Potter was the lowest bidder, was paid £5-10 in neat cattle, and became the pound-keeper. In 1822 the town voted to establish as the pound, "the Barn Yard owned by Solomon Read, near the Meeting-house." The stone pound with wooden gate on the West road was built in 1835. It was restored in 1957 with a replica of the original wooden gate.

BURYING-GROUNDS

The "center cemetery" or "north yard", as it has been called, contains the oldest gravestones in Rowe. In a deed dated March 13, 1792,* from Cornelius Jones, two acres for a meetinghouse and 17 ½ square rods for a burying ground were given to the town of Rowe. The three oldest grave stones are those of the children of Deacon William Hartwell and his wife Mary Hartwell. All three bear the date 1777** and are Lovell aged 2; Daniel, aged 5; and Mary C., aged 8. The next in point of chronology in the stone of Andrew Nelson who died in 1786 at the age of 31.

In 1802 it was voted "to allow Sherman Langdon ten Dollars for half an acre of land where the Burying place is near his house . . . or three quarters at fifteen Dollars." This represented the actual transfer of the land now known

*This date may have been added long after the conveyance, for Mr. Jones had sold all his lands in 1779 (See Chap. 3).

**John H. Thompson in his Historical Address at Heath in 1885, stated "In 1777 an epidemic prevailed along the river and on the hill which was thought to have been brought from the camp by the soldiers who came to help, and many died."

as the West yard, but it was seven years before (1795) that a second sexton was elected to care for this cemetery. Thaddeus Merrill was so honoured. He lived a scant half mile north of the West yard and the gravestone marking the grave of his two-year old son David who died July 8, 1788, is the oldest. The West and North cemeteries are maintained by the town.

The oldest marked grave in the East yard is that of Henry Babbitt dated November 1828. However, in March 1820, there was an article in the warrant, "to hear the report of the committee for repairing the east burying ground . . ." At the same meeting it was "voted to choose a Committee of three to invite the People and attend to fencing" the "Burying Grounds". Joseph Chapin was the first sexton for the East yard, in 1829.

On the so-called "upper Noyes Wheeler lot," about three quarters of a mile west of the old Readsboro Road and a little distance east of Deerfield River, a half mile from the Vermont line, are four gravestones. The oldest is that of Thomas Wilcox who died in 1814 at the age of 77.

The Cressy-Peck burying ground on the Old Cressy farm in the southwest part of the town is another private yard. The oldest dated stone is marked 1828, but there are two fieldstones without inscription which appear to be older.

The burying ground at Monroe Four Corners was just west of Rowe and the oldest gravestone bears the date of 1821 and the initials K. R. and C. R. Nathan Ballou, the writer's grandmother's grandfather, was buried there in 1838.

One of Rowe's old "characters" once lived on the Ebenezer Starr-Browning place midway between the old and new centres, and the story is told that his grave bears this epitaph,—

"Here lies the body of old John Dodge,
Who always dodged an evil;
But after dodging all he could,
He could not dodge the Devil."

In the East yard is a marble headstone erected to Angeline R. Chapin, wife of Lyman T. Chapin, who died in 1853. Inserted in a square cut in the stone, is a daguerreotype of Mrs. Chapin which in 1922 was in an excellent state of preservation. There is a similar cut but no daguerreotype in a neighboring stone erected in 1858. The writer remembers several of these cut stones in the Whitingham cemetery and one daguerreotype was legible before it was removed. In fact, it was not uncommon to insert these likenesses in gravestones in other parts of New England in the 1850's.

In the West yard we find several stones of special interest. One is erected to David Barrett who died "at Wms. College 4, April 1825 AE 16."

Another bears the name of Miss Anna Searls who died in 1832 at the age of 60. The stone in its solitary position testifies to the single loneliness of the lady. There are also two very old native stones crudely worked, one with the initials W. T. and the other E. T. Can this be that of William Taylor, the town's first selectman? Another stone in a remote corner is that of "Margaret O'Flaherty Late from Ireland," who died in 1848 at the age of 20. What induced this young girl to migrate to the hill-tops of Rowe? Did she die friendless? We trust not, for though her grave is removed from the others, it is provided with both headstone and footstone.

POSTMASTERS

Following is a list of the postmasters who have served at Rowe, from the establishment of the office to the present time, together with the dates of their appointment,—

Samuel H. Reed	January 27, 1820
Samuel H. Reed	April 27, 1837
John Ballou	March 31, 1854
Edward Wright	March 16, 1868
George M. Ballou	March 17, 1873
Edmund E. Amidon	March 25, 1875
Benjamin T. Henry	July 21, 1884
Gilbert A. Christie	October 8, 1914
Mrs. Grace G. Stanford	July 13, 1917
William T. Arms	November 3, 1938
Mrs. Augusta Bjork	October 12, 1940
Wendell W. Bjork	December 1, 1946

The above names and dates were furnished by the U. S. Post Office Department, but tradition would add the names of Solomon Reed, Solomon R. Drury, and John C. Drury. The post office was at the old center until 1874 or 1875 when it was removed to the village.

The representatives to the General Court for Rowe have been as follows,—

1831 Col. Noah Wells	1842 William Taylor
1832 Ebenezer Merrill	1843 Samuel H. Reed
1833 Col. Noah Wells	1846 Solomon R. Drury
1835 Samuel H. Reed	1848 Solomon Amidon
1836 Samuel H. Reed	1851 Col. Noah Wells
1837 Moses Gleason	1852 Col. Noah Wells
1839 Solomon Reed	1853 John C. Drury
1841 William Taylor	1854 Col. Noah Wells

In the other years, Rowe sent no representative. In 1857, the state was apportioned under the revised constitution, with one representative for 850 votes, and the district included besides Rowe,—Buckland, Charlemont, Heath and Monroe. From Rowe, Wm. Sanford represented the district in 1861; Rev. Samuel P. Everett in 1866 and again in 1871; Veniah M. Porter in 1881 and 1882; Charles B. Newell in 1891, and Henry D. Wright in 1912, 1913 and 1914.

FREEMASONRY

In June 1806, ten citizens petitioned the Grand Lodge at Boston for a subordinate lodge of masons in Rowe to be called Mountain Lodge; and three months later, September

9, 1806, the charter was duly granted. The names of the incorporating brothers are: John Wells, Pardon Haynes, Zedediah Barrett, Selah Munson, Joel Hall, Zebulon Benton, Jonathan White, Alfred Olds, Francis Porter and Caleb Blakeslee. The name Mountain Lodge seems particularly appropriate not only as descriptive of its locality, but as representing the strength, stability and endurance of freemasonry. Local tradition has it that meetings were held in the two-story house later occupied by Deacon John Thomas. Such records that may have been kept, have long since disappeared, and we only know that twelve years later, December 1818, on petition of the Grand Lodge signed by Joel Hall, Zedediah Barrett, Zebulon Benton, Alfred Olds, Pardon Haynes and several others, the Lodge was removed to Colrain. Sixteen brothers followed the charter to its new location. The new membership committee was selected from five towns: Colrain, Shelburne, Rowe, Charlemont and Halifax, Vt. In 1832 the lodge was suspended and in 1856 it was reorganized at Shelburne Falls by eight surviving members, the charter having been safely kept by the Master of the Lodge. At Shelburne Falls it has enjoyed a prosperous career without further interruption.

GRANGE

Rowe Grange #167 was organized June 15, 1888 with C. C. Wheaton as Master and A. A. Shippee as Overseer. There is no record of the number of members and it lasted only until February 2, 1889.

The Grange again came to Rowe October 7, 1900 with a charter list of 40 members. The only living charter member is Roscoe Fisk of Charlemont. B. C. Newell was the first Master and Mr. Fisk Overseer. The Grange took an active interest in the Social, Cultural, and Agricultural life of the town, growing in membership. until World War I when other interests interferred. The

Master Edward Henderson went into the army and the Grange again disbanded.

In 1946 people became interested and Rowe Grange was again reorganized with a charter list of 40 members. Benjamin Bjork was elected Master and Robert Swenson Overseer. The Grange now takes an active part in local activities, sponsoring the 4-H Clubs, First Aid Training classes and other varied projects. In 1960 there are 85 members with several of these coming from nearby towns. Under the leadership of Edward Stafford of Charlemont the Grange is growing in membership and plans a continued interest in the wellbeing of the town and its people.

THE ROWE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The first meeting of the Rowe Historical Society was held on November 30, 1957 and the following year on July 7, 1958 it received its Charter of Incorporation. The incorporators included the following: John H. Williams, Jr., Wendell W. Bjork, Edith M. Kloetzle, Anne G. Bond, Alice V. Truesdell, J. Henry Stanford, Dorothy N. Stevens, Lucy J. Avery, Arvon G. Palmer, Edward C. Henderson and Nancy N. Williams.

The first officers were John H. Williams, Jr., President; Wendell W. Bjork, First Vice-President; Dorothy N. Stevens, Second Vice-President; Edith M. Kloetzle, Treasurer; Dorothy N. Stevens, Financial Secretary and Assistant Treasurer; and Anne G. Bond, Corresponding Secretary. There were 92 Charter Members and of these 82 were annual members, 3 were contributing members, and 7 were life members.

According to the By-Laws the purpose of the organization is for:

"Collecting and preserving historical records and data of persons, places and events in and associated with Rowe, Massachusetts.

Collecting, preserving and maintaining an historical library and a museum of historical relics and articles of historical interest.

Leasing, buying, selling and maintaining such and so much real estate as may be necessary for the purpose of said corporation.

Awakening and maintaining public interest in all matters relating to the history of the Town of Rowe."

CHAPTER VIII

JOHN ROWE

"We shall never be all of one mind in our political principles. I desire no more candour from those who differ from me, than I ever have been, and ever shall be ready to shew to them."

Thomas Hutchinson.

We have seen in a previous chapter that the Legislature bestowed upon the town in 1785, the name, not of Exeter as was asked for by the petitioners, but of Rowe, in all probability in honor of John Rowe, a well-to-do Boston merchant and man of affairs.

John Rowe was born in Exeter, England, November 27, 1715, the oldest of the eleven children of Joseph and Mary Rowe. Three of the sons came to America, John, Jacob and William Syntol. John must have come over when a young man, as in 1736 he purchased a warehouse on Long Wharf, from which fact by the way, we infer that he brought some means with him. William Syntol came in 1749 or 1750 to visit his brothers and then sailed to Oporto. Jacob came seven years after John, later went to Quebec where he became assistant commissary general; and after John's death returned to Boston. Jacob's descendants, through his son John, are the only members of the family in America today.

John Rowe in 1743 married Hannah Speakman, a beautiful and accomplished woman, whose sisters married Ralph Inman, the Cambridge Loyalist. The Rowes were childless, but their house was often filled with young people, Mrs. Rowe's nephews, the Speakmans and Inmans, her nieces the Inmans and her cousin John Inman. They adopted Mrs. Rowe's niece, Susanna Inman. Susanna or "Sukey" as she was called by her uncle John, married September 1, 1772, at the age of eighteen, Captain John Linzee, then in command of the British warship "Beaver". Three days

after the wedding Captain Linzee sailed away with his bride, not to return until the outbreak of the Revolution. On Easter Sunday, April 16, 1775 they entered Boston harbor and the Linzees with their first-born at once were welcomed to the home of the Rowes. April 19, 1775, John Rowe records in his diary, "Captain Linzee and Capt. Collins in two small armed vessels were ordered to bring off the troops to Boston, but Lord Percy and General Smith thought proper to encamp on Bunker Hill this night." This of course, refers to the disastrous expedition of the British to Concord and the ignominious retreat to Charlestown. Mrs. Linzee and her child remained with the Rowes until January 1776 and Captain Linzee visited them frequently. After Sukey Inman's marriage, John Rowe adopted Jack, son of his brother Jacob who was then at Quebec.

Rowe became one of the principal merchants of Boston. His imported merchandise included such varied articles as salt, teas, wines, silk stockings, Spanish silk, ribbons, linens and woolens. He was one of the Proprietors of Long Wharf, and today Rowe's Wharf bears his name. His ships crossed the ocean and entered the coastwise trade. He was part owner of one of the ships which brought over the tea destined to be thrown into the harbor, and in his diary he records: "I would rather have lost five hundred Guineas than Bruce should have taken any of this Tea on board his Ship." There is a tradition that Rowe sat on the platform with Samuel Adams in the Old South Meeting House on the evening of Dec. 16, 1773, and uttered the prophecy, "Who knows how tea will mingle with salt water;" but his diary records a different story. "Dec. 16. I being a little Unwell staid at home all Day and all the evening . . . . A number of People appearing in Indian Dresses went on board the three Ships Hall, Bruce and Coffin, they opened the Hatches, hoisted out the Tea and flung it overboard—this might I believe have been prevented. I am sincerely sorry

for the Event. He said near two thousand People were present at this affair."

He became the owner of considerable property. This included his residence on Pond Lane, now Bedford Street, where he lived until his death, February 17, 1787, and where his widow remained until her death in 1803. He owned various houses and lots in other parts of Boston and an estate at Milton. He also owned property in Dighton, Plymouth, Malden, Medford, Gloucester, Stoughton, Grafton, Fairfield, Deerfield, Shelburne, and also in Hartford and Woodstock, Connecticut. The Massachusetts Centinel, in noting his death, called him "an eminent merchant of this place." John Adams listed him among the very rich men, and one of those who had acquired wealth by his own industry,—unlike Hancock, Bowdoin, and Pitts, who had acquired it by marriage or descent.

His biographer describes Bowe's political sentiments as those of a moderate. We may be sure that he was public spirited. He served on many committees appointed by the town or by merchants to set forth the grievances of the Colony. While not a leader among the Sons of Liberty, he enjoyed the confidence of his fellow citizens, and we find his name linked with those of such red-blooded patriots as Samuel Adams, John Hancock and James Otis. In fact it was upon the motion of Samuel Adams that he was chosen a Representative to the General Court in 1766. The following year he was a selectman with John Hancock and Samuel Sewall.

The crisis was rapidly approaching, and John Bowe in common with most of the Boston merchants was thinking of his property. Although he had held various offices, he had met defeat at the hands of Otis, Adams, Hancock and Cushing. After his defeat in 1767 he was not afterwards a candidate for Representative for thirteen years. There is no evidence that personal pique actuated his motives, but

it is natural for a man of property to be repelled by the thought of forcible resistance to the established government. Nevertheless, Rowe was not a Loyalist. He endeavored to steer a middle course. His sympathies for the most part were with his countrymen, yet he could not forget, as Hancock did, his large property investments. To do him justice, we must put ourselves back, in imagination, into the circumstances amid which his opinions were formed. He could not forsee the subsequent events; and although we may heartily disapprove of his lack of action, yet to paint a true picture we must depict John Rowe as a man of high character and real patriotism.

The British evacuated Boston March 17, 1776. Two days later Rowe records: "Genl Washington and his Retinue were in Town yesterday, I did not hear of it otherwise should have paid my Respects and waited on him." A few days later he sent an invitation to Washington to dine and received "a very Polite Answer." Through this trying period Rowe attended town meetings faithfully and in 1780 he was again chosen a Representative, which office he retained until 1784. In Fleet's Almanack and Register for 1787 we find the following: "John Rowe Esq obt 17th Feb 1787 Etat anae—72—Gratitude demands a Tear." Here we find the key,—the General Court after his last term was ended, out of gratitude named the new township in the northwestern part of the State for one of Boston's true benefactors.

CHAPTER IX

ROWE'S MILITARY HISTORY

"Every particle of historical truth is precious."
Benjamin Church.

During the Revolutionary War, Rowe was known as Myrifield Plantation; and the soldiers who enlisted usually spelled it Merryfield. In response to the alarm of April 19, 1775, two companies of minute-men set out for Boston on April 21st., one composed entirely of Myrifield citizens under Capt. Gideon Chapin, and one recruited from Charlemont, Shelburne and Myrifield under Capt. Oliver Avery of Charlemont. August 14, 1777 a detachment from the Myrifield company under Sergeant Nathaniel Corbet marched to Bennington, probably by way of Readsboro. Outside of these two brief "campaigns," the records of Myrifieldians are scattered. Several were at Valley Forge and tradition has it that one was a member of Washington's Life Guards.* Aaron Barr is stated to have been the first man wounded at Bunker Hill. Rev. Cornelius Jones is said to have borne arms until the surrender of Burgoyne. Some were in the northern campaign around Ticonderoga.

The seventeen volumes compiled by the State give their records in some detail and below we list the names only .

Aaron Barr
Darius Barr
Moses Barr
Thomas Bartlett
George Bennet
Bartholomew Bartlett
Benjamin Brown
Alexander Teakels
Dependence Thayer
Craft Davice
Ezekiel Davice
Theodorus Doty
George Gaby
Josiah Gilbert

*The name of Jonathan Cressy is mentioned in the Connecticut State Archives as a Private in the 2nd Continental Dragoons, but Mrs. Peck states that he was for three years in Washington's Life Guards and served in the army, a total of six years and nine months. The records in the Bureau of Pensions at Washington show his enlistment from the summer of 1779 to April 1783. Membership in the Life Guards is doubtful.

Consider Brown
Matthew Brown
Robert Brown
Charles Cambell
Gad Chapen
Shadrach Chapen
Abner Chapen
Gideon Chapen
Jesse Collis (?)
Eldad Corbet
Nathaniel Corbet
Andrew McNitt
John McNitt
Samuel Moore
Timothy Nolton
Nathaniel Parker
Leonard Pike
Leonard Pique
Caleb Robinson
Thomas Shearman
Jacob Streeter
William Stel (Steel)
Charles Stewart
John Taylor
Humphrey Taylor
William Taylor
John Gill (?)
John Gilley
Aaron Gleason
Asa Gleason
Henry Gleason
Jonas Gleason
Jonathan Gleason
William Hartwell
James Howard
Cornelius Jones
Patrick King
Jonathan Lamb
William Lamb
Joseph Thomas
Samuel Tower
Nathan Wheeler
Jonathan Whight
Timothy Whight
Jonathan White
David Wier
Henry Willson
Noah Willson
Henry Wilson
Malachi Wilson
Michael Wilson
David Wire

John Gill's address is "Maryfield."

In a number of cases apparently the same name is spelled differently. Eldad Corbet is listed in four different places; there is a Gad Chapen and a Gad Chapin. David Wier and David Wire probably are one and the same. Henry Willson was a lad of 18; perhaps Henry Wilson was our good deacon who was one of the town fathers ten years later. Timothy Whight may be Timothy White. John McNitt had no address against his name but he was in the same company with Andrew McNitt and a John McNitt lived on the north road to Readsborough.

E. W. Blakeslee (So. Ashfield) stated in 1916 that his great grandfather, Caleb Blakslee, served seven years in the War and wintered at Valley Forge.*

*Caleb Blakeslee emigrated from Connecticut and built a log cabin on the knoll to the west of the frame house (owned by Mrs. Roland Tuttle), which he later erected in 1807.

There are available no good records of the War of 1812, or Madison's War as it was then called and should be so named today. In September 1814, orders were issued for calling out the militia of the state for the defence of the sea-coast. October 6, 1814 the town of Rowe voted "to pay the Expense of the Waggoners for Transporting the Soldiers, by the Town" . . . and "to raise one Hundred and thirty Dollars to defray the expense of the detached Militia who have been called into service."

The State Archives do not enlighten us as to the names of those who were so called, but in a small trunk in the possession of Emory B. Sibley are some interesting papers of Capt. James Brown. In May 1812, the several officers commanding companies in the 5th Regiment were ordered to "detach from their respective Companies their quota of officers, non-commissioned officers and privates." There were nine captains, and a total of 48 in the list. Capt. James Brown had detailed 1 drummer and 4 "rank and file," a total of 5 out of the 48. They were instructed to "hold themselves in readiness to march at any time when called," but there is no evidence that they ever were called. However, in September 1814, (over two years later), Capt. Brown moved his company as far as the camp at New Salem, for we find several regimental orders at that place. In October 1814 he filed a "provision return," for 225 rations for 3 days, for 4 sergeants, 4 corporals, 2 musicians, and 65 privates. There is a "Roll of Captain Brown's detached Company of Foot," without date, but apparently between 1807 and 1815. From the fact that it was a detached company, it may well be the roll of the company that marched to New Salem. Practically every man except the three officers were equipped with 1 musket with iron rod, 1 bayonet, 1 scabbard and belt, 2 flints, 1 cartridge box, 24 cartridges with balls, 1 knapsack. Those from Rowe were as follows,—

COMMISSIONED OFFICERS
James Brown (Captain)
Solomon Reed (Lieutenant)

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS
Ebenezer Meril (Sergeant)
Ira Gleason (Drummer)

RANK AND FILE

James Taylor
Phineas Barr
Ephraim Knolton
Joseph Chapin
Ambrose Potter
Alfred Brown
Samuel P. Nims
Henry Brown
Sebra Thomas
Eliphaz Marsh
Moses Gleason
Pliny Wells
Daniel Farwell
John Huntington
Amos Richardson
Simeon Barr, Jr.
Newton Warner

The others were from Heath, Colrain, Ashfield and Conway.

Rowe furnished 65 men in the Civil War (1861-1865) or three more than her quota.* The list includes the following:—

Emory P. Andrews
James M. Allen
William Bemis
Abel C. Bliss
Carpenter Bliss
Waitstill Bliss
J. Franklin Brown
Newton L. Brown
Reuel Bullard
Everett E. Cressey
George Cressey
Rodolphus D. Fish
John Fitzgerald
Adoniram J. Gleason
J. H. Harrington
Charles H. Hathaway
John W. Haynes
David Henry
Hiland H. Hicks
George R. Jeffords
William Kelley
George R. King
John Leonard
Judson Lovely
William Lynet
Thomas Love
Jasper C. Miller
Houghton Paine
James H. Paine
Nathaniel R. Rice
Albert Scott
Charles H. Scott
Thomas L. Scott
Lyman Scott
Russell Sears
Russell Stafford
Chauncey Stafford, Jr.
Luther Stafford
Joseph A. Sibley
Philo Sibley, Jr.
Leroy S. Stanford
E. M. Stephens
Royal W. Stone
Amos Temple
Andrew Thorrington
George A. Wilcox
Luman Wilcox
Alonzo M. Wilson
Richard Woffenden
Henry C. Wright
R. M. Wilson

*Samuel Woffenden enlisted as a resident of Hawley.

In the Spanish War (1898) Rowe was not directly represented. The town's sole claim rests in Timothy Kiley of Montague who enlisted as a volunteer at Miller's Falls, May 3, 1898, in Company E, 2nd Regiment. He was not discharged until the following November, but was absent on sick leave; and the writer remembers riding past his father's house (now owned by Adelbert Truesdell) in August of that year, and young Kiley on hearing the strains of "Johnny Comes Marching Home," hobbled to the door to wave his acknowledgment of the serenade.

In the spring of 1922 a memorial was built in front of the town hall to those who saw service in the Great War (1917 -1918). The bronze tablet contains these names,—

Harry Blakeslee
Howard Blakeslee
Edward Boulli
Leon Brown
Herbert Carroll
John Deane
Louis Farley
Levi Gamache
Edward Henderson
Harry Hunt
Sylvester Kidd (killed)
Clifford Laplant
Oscar Larsen
Austin Liese
Cyrus Liese
Howard Liese
Hugh Murphy
Arthur Sartori
Harry Woffenden

The inscription reads,—

"The right is more precious than peace and we shall fight for the things which we have always carried nearest our hearts."

In the early days the town maintained a militia company. The first officers were: Captain, N. Corbett; 1st Lieutenant, A. Chapin; 2nd Lieutenant, N. Merrill. The succeeding captains have been Paul Thayer, John Wells, Pardon Haynes, Zebulon Benton, Jonathan Marsh, Stephen Brown, James Brown, Solomon Reed, Noah Wells, Samuel H. Reed, John Taylor, William Taylor, M. Shumway, S. Wheeler, J. W. Wheeler and John Thomas.

THE MUSTER-ROLL OF CAPT. P. HAYNES, MAY 5, 1795

Pardon Haynes, Captain
Shadrick Chapin, Lieutenant
William Fuller, Ensign
Ambrose Potter, Sarjeant
Samuel Bell, Music
Benjamin Merril, Music

Stephen Brown, Sarjeant
Jonathan Marsh, Sarjeant
John Cheney, Sarjeant
Eleazer Ames (?)
Isaiah Adams
Consider Brown
Jacob Bliss
Cornelius Barr
Abel Basset
Isaac Braman
Jeddediah Coburn
David Corbet
Thomas Cheney
Gideon Chapin Jr.
Alpheus Chapin
Silas Colton
Eli Colton, Jr.
Reuben Clark
Abner Chapin Jr.
David Chapin
Eliphalet Cutting, Jr.
Louis Chandler
Festus Foster
Nathaniel Gleason
Jonas Gleason Jr.
Stephen Gleason
Thomas Goodnow Jr.
Benjamin Horley
Abner Goodnow
Stephen Goodnow
Joseph Knolton
Benj. Knolton
Samuel Kellogg
Jonathan Hartwell, Corporal
Asa Foster, Corporal
John Thomas, Corporal
John Hamelton
Joel Hill
Jonah Hill
Gideon Langdon
Sleuman Langdon
Amzi Langdon
Thaddeus Merrill
Joseph Merrill
Eli McNitt
James Streeter
Obadiah Stafford
Job Stafford
Benjamin Tuttle
Henry Wilson Jr.
Martin Wilson
Warren Wilson
Erastus Wait
Calvin Bellus
Jeddediah Barret
Isaac Coopper
Baldwin Potter
Daniel Gleason
Nathan Nolton
Levi Ray
Reuben Gleason
Timothy Knolton
Elishu Graves
Juna Adams Wilson

There were 51 muskets, 33 bayonets, 52 cartridge boxes, 41 iron rods, 12 bayonet belts, 120 flints.

In 1956 the town voted $500 for an Honor Roll and All Wars Memorial. In 1958 the appropriation was increased to a total of $1600 and a "Goshen Stone" monument was erected just south of the library. This monument has four bronze tablets. The World War 1 tablet was moved from the old memorial in front of the town hall, and three new ones contained the names from the Revolutionary War, Civil War and World War II. The dedication of this All Wars Veterans Memorial was part of the ceremony on "Old Home Day" in July 1958.

CHAPTER X

OLD PEOPLE AND TRADITIONS

"Which we have heard and known and our fathers have told us."
Psalm 78

The name of Deacon Archibald Thomas stands out as second only to that Cornelius Jones in the old Plantation days. He was a deacon in Rev. Morehead's First Church in Boston when the Reverend Mr. Jones purchased this tract at the auction in 1762 at the Royal Exchange Tavern in King Street, and perhaps it was on this occasion that these two gospel lovers met each other. Not long after 1770 Deacon Thomas took his family into the barren wilds of the new Township No. 10 from Colrain where he had had two children born in 1769 and 1770. His daughter Margaret was born in Rowe in July 1773. We see his hand in the petitions for incorporation sent to the General Court in 1782 and 1783, the latter proving successful. He was the town's first constable and later held various offices. Mr. Thomas and Jonas Gleason were the first deacons in Rowe. He died in 1793 in his 86th year. Deacon Jonas Gleason had a son in July 1774, and he died in April 1815. Capt. William Taylor was one of the Worcester county men to follow Cornelius Jones in the early days of the settlement, perhaps before 1770, although his deed is dated 1777. Humphrey Taylor's deed is dated 1778, but he had a daughter born in Rowe in February 1773. In March 1786 the town voted to allow "Capt. Willm Taylor for his extraordinary services in the (year) 1785 for the Town 13/6 To Mr. Isaac Langdon do 15/0 Moses Streeter do 12/0."

Tradition has it that Eldad Corbet was the first pioneer to follow Cornelius Jones, although his deed from Mr. Jones is dated 1777. His farm is now known as the Everett-Smith-Brown place. Captain Nathaniel Corbet built the old stone

house, but his farm was on the west side of the road and his house-site a few rods northerly of the stone house. We find him a highway surveyor in 1785. Nathaniel Corbet was in Milford in 1765, in Charlemont from June 1767 to October 1770, and in Rowe as early as September 1772. He died in 1812. Capt. Benjamin Brown had a son born in Rowe in 1772, Moses Streeter a son in 1773, William Lamb a daughter in 1772, Seth Howard a daughter in 1776, and John McNitt a daughter in 1777. The Chapins were early settlers. Lieut. Abner Chapin having a son in March 1770 and Lieut. Gideon Chapin a son in 1771.

The Fosters filled a large niche in town and church affairs. Jude Foster came between 1780 and 1782. Nathan Foster came from Western (now Warren) and had a daughter born in 1782.

Little is known of Henry Wilson outside of the fact that he was a deacon in the early days. In January 1786 the town allowed him £2-0-8 "for services which he has done for the Town in the course of seven years past." He held various offices including chairman of the selectmen from 1792 to 1794 and of the school committee.

Henry Wilson, Jr., was born in 1760 and came to Merryfield in 1777. He served five years in the War of which ten months was spent in a "loathsome prison."

It is difficult to state who was the first physician in Rowe. Dr. I. Ward Clary was an early settler and he is mentioned in March 1786 in the description of the road east of the meeting house. He had children born in Rowe in 1785 and 1789. He was elected town clerk in 1788. Dr. Heaton is mentioned in March 1787 as owning property a short distance north of the meeting house. Dr. Pardon Haynes was elected hogrief in 1790 having come to Rowe in 1788. Can it be that this region supported three doctors? Mrs. Archibald Thomas antedated them all, if the brewing of herbs is

considered the work of a medical practitioner. As a testimony to her skill, she lived to be 106. Her neighbor Judah Goodspeed,* who dwelt south of Adams Mountain, lived so long (to the age of 101), that he was wont to say, "God has forgotten me."

Pardon Haynes was the town physician for many years, namely from 1788 to 1832. In the seating of the meeting house in 1820 he was rated second only to Rev. Preserved Smith. The town in 1825 allowed only a part of his bill of $81.87 "for doctoring" various families in the town and he was oblidged to enter suit in order to collect the whole. He was born in New London, Conn., in 1762 and when 15, came with his father to Hoosac. He studied medicine with a brother; and after a short practice in Hebron, N. Y. he came to Rowe where he built up a large practice. His travelling was mostly by horseback and in winter occasionally on snow-shoes; and many tales are told of his narrow escapes when fording the Deerfield or the like. Under commissions from Governors John Hancock and Samuel Adams he commanded the military company and had the best-disciplined company in Gen. Mattoon's regiment. We should not confuse old Doctor Haynes with his son Pardon Haynes who was a practical joker. The son lived on the Canedy farm on the County Road (more than one road was thus called in the old records and later dropped). Often preferring to work than to attend church, the younger Haynes one Sunday perceived his neighbor Josiah Carpenter approaching on his way to the sanctuary. Being in the potato patch, he had no time to dodge behind the house, but sought a hiding place in a hogshead. Now his brother Anson Haynes who was known to be a little "queer", took in the situation and quietly came up and set the hogshead rolling

*There is an old story that Mrs. Goodspeed refused to ride behind her husband, on the pillion attached to the rear of the saddle: but always rode in front, with Judah meekly astride behind her.

down hill. The sequel may be left to the reader's imagination. Pardon Haynes liked to play jokes on the other fellow. It seems that Abijah Burnap was elected to the school committee which was an agreeable job, all except-travelling to obtain new teachers, for he had no team. He was heard to complain on this score and thought that some of his neighbors might lend him a horse. One morning he found a horse of wood near his door with tail and mane made of small spruce trees. Grandma Grundy says that it was the work of "that Pardon Haynes."

Dr. Humphrey Gould came to Rowe as successor to Dr. Haynes, whose daughter he married. He also lived on the farm later owned by the late Edward Wright, and his daughter, the latter married. The old inhabitants remember Dr. Gould as "a fine courtly man, well educated, a good neighbor," and a constant attendant at church. He was absentminded and of course this led to many ludicrous mistakes. He was usually the first one to bring out his sleigh, after the first fall of snow. The writer's grandmother was born in Monroe in 1833 and Dr. Gould assisted on that occasion. Amzi Langdon one day came for the doctor in great haste and said that the well-sweep had fallen on his wife and knocked her sensible! Dr. Gould died in 1874 at the ripe age of 77.

The Langdons cannot be passed by without mentioning Gideon Langdon, a name which strikes the ear as most euphonious. All that is left of his homestead is a cellar-hole with the remains of a once massive chimney. His was the next house north of Preserved Smith's on the Readsboro road. The floor boards of the house were pinned down with inch pins of wood, a process called "tree-nailing." The late Joseph A. Sibley, one-time blacksmith and a good friend of the writer, used to point out the abandoned farms along this once populous road; and pointing to this one said, "When a boy I often used to toast my shins in front of Mrs. Lang-

don's fire." One Monday morning Gideon Langdon and his wife drove to church "all dressed up in their Sunday best," and did not discover their mistake until they saw the usual week-day activities around the store. He died in 1860, aged 81.

Deacon John Thomas, the grandson of Deacon Archibald Thomas, was born in Rowe in 1774 and lived to the good old age of 86. It is said that he did not attend school until he was fourteen, so that he had to study hard to make up and ever after took an interest in local education. He taught school when there were many scholars, was captain in the militia, selectman and town clerk, superintendent of schools, and what he probably desired to be remembered chiefly for was superintendent of the Sabbath School in the Church. His old two-story house no longer stands in the north part of the town on the Potter-Porter cross road, defying the winter winds in its exposed position. A later tenant once remarked, "Yes it is a real sightly spot."

One Peter Louden went to work for old Martin Wilson, and Mrs. Wilson apologized for her "pick-up" dinner as she had been washing and expected no one. Peter felt he should say something, so ventured, "There's plenty of it such as 'tis," then thought something was wrong, so continued, "I mean there's enough of it without 'twas better."

Before giving our attention to the later worthies, it might be of interest to touch upon the early lay-out of the town. Cornelius Jones held on to what is now known as the Wells-Ford farm, a half-mile east of the meeting house, and his mowing lots were perhaps the nearest to level land of any in town. Gideon and Shadrach Chapin took land east of him.

Matthew Barr settled in the north east corner of the old Myrifield plot on what we know as the Veniah Porter farm (deed dated 1781). Next west on the Deacon Thomas farm settled Archibald Thomas, Jr. (deed dated 1775), and Mr.

Jones deducted the 2-rod highway across from east to west. John Taylor bought in 1777 the farm next to the west, owned recently by Amos Underwood, with allowance for a 4-rod highway, Humphrey Taylor in 1778 bought the next place south (known as the Bolton farm) with similar highway allowance, and in January 1777 William Taylor of Pelham bought the next place south (known as the Bullard-Potter farm), with similar 4-rod allowance. Next west of John Taylor's on the Vermont line, and bordering on the old Readsborough Road, we find a deed of 1778 from Ebenezer Saunders of Leicester to Joel Dickenson of Shutesbury. It is not clear that either of them were settled there, but in 1784 Joseph Cressy of Tolland, Conn. bought the farm for £155. He was father of Jonathan and Washington Cressy who later settled in the southwestern part of the town. Next south of the above, and west of Humphrey Taylor's, we find a deed of May 1778 from Mr. Jones to Seth Howard, and another deed of January 1779, from Howard to Joseph Steel, who later got into trouble in connection with Shays' Insurrection. The house site is discernible on the old cross road which ran westerly from the Bolton cellar hole to the Wheeler-Wilcox place, and the peaceful cinnamon roses offer no trace of their former owner's belligerent proclivities. Perhaps they were planted when Asa Foster of New Salem subsequently lived on the place. Next south and west of William Taylor's we find Standish Foster and later Gideon Langdon. Returning to the Vermont line again on the west side of the Readsborough-Bennington Road, we have Benjamin Brown of Leicester, followed by Edward Upham. Next south is Ebenezer Saunders again, now known as the old Wilcox place, then next south is Nathan Wheeler of Mendon (1774), who in turn sold to John McNitt. Coming back to the old center of the town, we find Abiel Lamb as the first owner of the land on the west side of the highway, extending from the former road opposite the Wright farm, northerly to include the Robert Wells farm. He sold in

1778 to Jason Cady of Shutesbury. After this the property was split up into various parcels. Jonas Gleason in 1774 bought the Bullard-Shippee farm, and the farm next to the north was bought by Eldad Corbet in 1777, which lies to the west of Nathaniel Corbet's. The latter's house site is on the crest of the knoll on the west side of the old road north of the old center and a few rods northwest of the old stone house. Phineas Ward in 1775 bought the farm south of Jonas Gleason's which includes the present house of the late Ide Brown and the Nelson cellar hole. The farm on the south side of the road, where the Amidons later settled, was first bought in 1786 by Michael Wilson.

Artemas Ward settled to the southward of the centre and he became the first miller. Abijah, Levi, Jedediah and Jonathan also settled in the neighborhood of Factory Village.* Aaron Gleason settled to the east of the Chapins towards the Green and Walker Grant. Later, in 1794, Moses Gleason built the house later occupied by David Henry and George Stanford and now owned by Prof. E. Elwood Stanford, Ph. D. John Adams settled on the southwestern slope of Adams Mountain, and his house lot now belongs to the author. An old story has it that nearer the top and on the northeast slope is springy land which sends up a mist before stormy weather, and neighbors would say, "Old John is putting on his night-cap, a storm is brewing." John Adams died in 1813 at the age of 93. Dr. Clary lived between Jones and the meeting house. Reuben Clark lived on the Sanford-Legate-Newell place this side of the top of the hill leading down to Monroe Bridge, but soon moved down onto the Zoar road. Obed Foote of Waterbury, Conn. is said to have built the first two-story house in town near Cornelius Jones. He sold his farm to Samuel Wells in 1785. For some years the town developed more rapidly to the east and north of the centre.

*A deed of 1821 indicates a blacksmith shop by the bridge over Pelham Brook in Factory Village.

John Henry Haynes was born in Rowe in 1849, the son of John W. and Emily Taylor Haynes. He grew up on his father's farm, attending the district school, and entered Drury Academy in North Adams in 1868 where he graduated in 1872. He then entered Williams College and took his degree in 1876. Thereafter he served as principal of the Williamstown High School for four years. After a brief period in South Hadley Falls, he took charge of an exploratory expedition to Crete; but owing to Turkish opposition, was forced to remain in Constantinople, where he acted as tutor in Robert College. Later he taught in a small College in Syria. In 1888 he became business manager of the first and second archeological expeditions under the auspices of the University of Pennsylvania. He was United States Consul at Bagdad from 1888 to 1892; but that for which he is best remembered is his directorship of the Nippur expeditions from 1893 to 1895 and from 1899 to 1900. He returned to North Adams where he lived quietly until his death, June 29, 1910. Many scientific men paid tributes to this well-known archeologist, and contributed to the cost of his monument which is a replica of the black obelisk of Shalmaneser who lived in Babylonia in 850 B. C.

Another graduate of Williams College was John Wells, son of Noah Wells. Born on the old Wells farm in Rowe which once was the Cornelius Jones homestead, he attended the centre school and later took his bachelor's degree at Williams College in 1838, when he delivered the valedictory address. After a short period of teaching, he studied law in the Greenfield office of his uncle Daniel Wells and at the Harvard Law School. He then practised law in Chicopee with George M. Stearns and with Judge A. L. Soule in Springfield. He represented Chicopee in the Legislature in 1849, 1851 and 1857. When the probate and insolvency judgeships were united the following year, John Wells was appointed to the position. He attended the Chicago Convention which nominated Lincoln in 1860, as an alternate dele-

gate, and in 1864 he was a Presidential elector. The next year he was returned to the Legislature, but the following year was defeated as a result of his courageous stand on the question of volunteer bounties.* His ambition, however, was achieved by his selection in 1866 for the State Supreme Court, a choice which pleased the entire bar of western Massachusetts.

As a Judge he was just and considerate although perhaps not brilliant. To quote an associate,—"His opinions contain few dicta, which as has often happened to many showy judges, . . . will have hereafter to be denied, qualified or explained." Judge Wells was one of the founders of the Chicopee Unitarian Church, for many years superintendent of the Sunday School and leader of the choir. He was president of the old Cabot bank, treasurer of the Cabot and West Springfield bridge, president of the American Unitarian and of the Williams College Alumni associations.

The Wells family has played a large part in the history of the town. John Wells came from Greenfield in 1785 to the farm purchased for him by his father Samuel Wells from Obed Foote, which is situated at the north-east corner of the junction of the main east-west road and the north road leading to Sadawga and Readsboro. He served the town in many capacities and was commissioned Lieut. Colonel, of the Fifth Regiment, Second Brigade, Fourth Division of the Militia of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in 1797. He was also appointed Justice of the Peace, and we know of his handling the problems of the Rowe malefactors at the time of Shays' Insurrection in 1786-1787. His son Noah Wells also became a Justice of the Peace, Deputy Sheriff, Colonel (1823-1826) of the Fifth Regiment, County Commissioner (1835), and he was elected to the State House of Representatives five times and to the State Senate in 1841. Altogether

*The same problem with regard to the Veterans' Bonus, plagued legislatures after the two Great Wars.

he was a substantial citizen. He purchased the saw-mill in 1818 and Chapin's Grist Mill in 1822, and became interested in the Franklin Manufacturing Co. (the satinet factory). There is a paper showing his purchase of four shares in 1845, (par $100) for $300, which price indicates the decline in the company's affairs.

The Amidons came to Rowe from Readsboro. Their first house lot was southeast of the town pound and on the crest of the knoll, and the cellar-hole is still to be seen. A pretty jingle goes like this—Amidon Roger, Amidon Joseph, Amidon Daniel D., Amidon Harry, Amidon Elbert, Amidon Edmund E. The latter, known to all as Uncle Ed,* injured his leg during logging operations so he kept the store from 1852. He had previously worked in the saw-mill, and in 1848 turned out wooden bowls which were forwarded to James Ford in California for the purpose of "washing" gold.

Jim Zeland was an "itinerant cobbler" going from house to house with his kit of tools and probably carrying a few lasts in a leather apron slung over his back. We can picture the barefoot boy standing on the kitchen floor or on a paper having the shape of his foot outlined with charcoal. The cobbler measured the long slender foot of Mrs. Amidon three times, then held up the string and said, "Ah-mazing!"

Asa Foster II in a deed of 1797 is described as "Cordwainer" (shoemaker).

The tailoress followed the cobbler, with goose, buckram and shears, cutting and making the garments of homespun. Prudy Fellows is remembered as one who "went around sewing," and an earlier tailoress was Jemima Middleditch who lived "over west." She received an offer of marriage from a widower with several children; and in her indecision

*As a boy I used to watch "Uncle" Ed Amidon make handmade shingles. He would quarter, split and then shave them on a wooden "horse", and later dip them. Dipped, hand-made, shingles would last for many years more than the sawed kind.

as to the wisdom of accepting, she sought outside advice.

She was told that if she refused, she would probably regret it, and if she accepted the result would be similar; so she chose the latter course with the conclusion that if regrets were inevitable, it were better to have help in bearing them.

Lucinda Bullard was born in Rowe, March 17, 1835 north of the old center in the picturesque old stone house which was an object of interest for many years after the family moved away from it to another farm and it gradually fell to ruins. It was built entirely of field stone and dates from the latter part of the eighteenth century at which time such a structure was rare indeed. Her girlhood was spent in Rowe and she had only the advantages of a district school education, but she was a natural student and was always studying as long as she lived. She taught herself Latin and Botany after she reached middle life, and was especially keen in mathematics. As was the custom of the bright village girls, she taught school while still very young and was very successful. At nineteen, she was married in the stone house to Stephen J. Ballou (grandson of Nathan the pioneer) of Monroe and went there for a time to live with his parents. Later, they moved to Eastern Massachusetts where her husband engaged in various business enterprises. He was never a robust man and died at the age of forty-six. To him, and to their three children, she was a devoted wife and mother. After his death, she took up the study of medicine and became a successful homeopathic physician until ill health came upon her and she passed away at the age of fifty-four. She had great strength of character, an active and fearless mind, and a tender and loving heart. Her life held many disappointments and much sorrow, but she rose above all and was always brave, strong, and hopeful. Besides the closer relationships, she was a devoted daughter to her husband's parents in their old age, and the

true and valued friend of her patients. In the days when it took courage to stand for temperance principles she was one of their staunchest supporters, and never allowed self-interest to silence her voice or mar her influence. She had much musical talent and was for years the leading singer in Concord where she lived though she never had the time or money to cultivate her voice as she longed to do. A splendid type of strong, intelligent, conscientious woman—Rowe may well be proud of her as a daughter.

No history of Rowe would be complete without a sketch of the centennial celebration in 1885. Although incorporated in February 1785, the town chose to celebrate at a more propitious season and selected August 26th. A cash appropriation of one hundred dollars was made at the March town meeting and the arrangements were entrusted to a committee consisting of J. Frank Brown, chairman; J. Herbert Starr, Secretary and Treasurer; Christopher C. Wheaton, Assistant Secretary; Charles Demons, E. E. Amidon, Obed Peck, R. J. Smith, Reuel Bullard and David Henry. Everybody assembled at the old centre near Ford Hall and the procession headed by Chief Marshal J. F. Brown with five aids and the Colrain Band, marched to the grove on the Robert Wells farm. A large flag bearing the word "Welcome" was stretched above the road, a flag was flying from a staff at the grove, and behind the speakers' stand, in letters of evergreen, was the motto, "Love and good-will to all." Probably fifteen hundred people were here assembled.

A salute was fired at the grove at ten o'clock to announce the commencement of the exercises. After a prayer by Rev. Jacob Davis of Rowe, J. H. Starr,* the President of the Day extended hearting greeting to all, and then introduced Hon. Silas Bullard of Menasha, Wisconsin, as the historian of the day. This address was followed by vocal music furnished by a young male quartette who were spending

*J. H. Starr attended the sesqui-centennial in 1935.

their vacation in Rowe, and then all adjourned for dinner. Some 250 not having lunch baskets were accommodated by a Charlemont caterer in Ford Hall. The afternoon program included a Traditional Address by Percy F. Bicknell, a recent graduate of Williams College and son of Rowe's Unitarian minister, a poem by Mrs. Georgia A. Peck of Westfield, some brief remarks from Rev. Russell A. Ballou of Boston and toasts and responses with Benjamin T. Henry acting as toast-master. Cordial greetings and old-time hospitality marked the day throughout.

The evening was given over to a ball in Ford Hall with John S. Hunt as Floor Manager, assisted by five aids, Charles A. Brown, Alfred Reed, Fred L. Tyler, Joseph A. Sibley and Ashton Reed.

In 1935 the Sesquicentennial was a gala occasion celebrated with "Old Home Day" in August. The afternoon entertainment was a fine pageant of eight scenes depicting the early settlement and history of the town followed by the dedication of the new Library building. The author was Master of Ceremonies of the Day, and Mrs. Anna L. Henry delivered an address on the history of the library in Rowe and the prayer of dedication was given by Rev. George A. Tuttle, former resident.

In July 1952 the Volunteer Firemen's Association had their first annual Firemen's Field Day and Old Timers Reunion. This has been held each year since and become known as "Old Home Day" with events including a parade, band concert, gymkhana, buffet supper, vesper service and ending with fireworks over Pelham Lake. More recently the Historical Society has held its Annual Meeting on this day and other organizations including the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Firemen, the Grange, the Library Trustees and the churches have all joined in helping make this an outstanding day for both residents and old timers.

The first store was at the old center probably as early as 1790. It was kept by one Ransom and was continued by William Langdon. Later the Tuttles built a large building for mercantile purposes, a part of which has been known as Ford Hall. In this have traded Langdon & Bradley, Olds, Barrett & Hall, Chandler & Reed, and Ruel Darling. A deed of conveyance dated December 1807 mentions "Solomon Reed, merchant." A memorandum listing the expenses of the estate of John Wells, dated February 1818, mentions "Chandler & Reed." In 1832 we find S. and S. H. Reed assessed $800. on their "Store Potash and Barn," $75 on two acres of land, and $2500. on "stock in trade." Bearing in mind the greater purchasing power of the dollar in those times, that must have been a substantial amount of goods in stock. In 1836 Samuel Reed alone is assessed and the following year the firm becomes Reed & Drury. A Justice's writ dated December 1848 mentions "the store of J. C. Drury in Rowe," and "Solomon R. and John C. Drury of Rowe late joint partners in trade, under the name of S. R. & J. C. Drury." Also in a deed of 1851, mention is made of the store of John C. Drury. Samuel H. Reed, a native of Petersham, came to Rowe as a clerk in the store of his brother Solomon, and soon became a partner. Later they became interested in the Franklin Manufacturing Co. At the death of Solomon, the business being somewhat involved by the decline of their manufacturing interest, Samuel settled up the affairs of the firm, paying all debts in full, which required nearly all his resources, and remained in business under his own name. In 1847, he was appointed Sheriff of the County and removed to Greenfield, where he held various offices including the presidency of the Franklin Fire Insurance Co. John Ballou was the last to keep a store there probably as late as 1863 and he died in 1888. The Atlas of 1871 shows his "merchant tailor" shop in "Fords Hall"

at the old centre.*

Cyrus Ballou about 1845 came to Rowe from Whitingham where he had been connected with that unsuccessful undertaking known as the "Farmers Interest." He was probably the first to keep a store at the new centre, but he soon sold out to E. E. Amidon in 1852 and took to farming, purchasing the Adams property in January 1853. Benjamin T. Henry bought out Uncle Ed Amidon in 1882, and he in turn sold out to George Arthur Rice in 1917. He was succeeded by B. S. Tower in 1923 and later William Janovsky. The building burned in 1936. Charles Newell ran another general store in the thirties on the site of John Richards Blacksmith Shop which he sold to Lynton Martin who kept the business a short time until it burned in 1941. When Mrs. Augusta Bjork took over the Post Office in the old Baptist Parsonage building in 1940 she carried ice cream and gifts and later groceries when the other store burned. She was followed by her son, Wendell, who in 1954 constructed the present Village Store on the same property.

The question as to when the present centre of the town supplanted the old centre is an interesting one. The centre schoolhouse was moved down the hill to its present location in the fall of 1872. August 9, 1873 the town meeting was held in this centre schoolhouse and it was then "voted that the town hold no more meetings in any schoolhouse." The meeting on August 22, 1873 accordingly was held in the "Union Hall in Factory Village in said Rowe." The Pond Road was built in 1873 and the road to Mrs. Nancy Brown's in 1874, and the road easterly from the latter point across the brook to Edward Wright's was discontinued the same year, so that the old centre became a memory of the past.

The old inhabitants hardly remember the flood rains of October 1869. In that year the newly-built covered bridge across the Deerfield above Zoar went out, and one Rowe

*A large portion of Ford Hall fell in during the winter of 1930-31; a part was taken down during 1931; and by September 1932 it was completely demolished.

schoolmistress who was teaching in Florida was obliged for several months to walk up the track nearly to the Tunnel and there be ferried across. The mill below Charles King's on the road to Zoar was swept away, together with owner Hyde and his wife, who were endeavoring to save the machinery. A special town meeting was held November 2, 1869 to borrow $1,000 to repair the roads and bridges which had been "damaged by the heavy rains."

The flood rains of October 1955 inflicted damage to the roads estimated at $7,500. But the big flood of 1938 destroyed a section of the Zoar road below Steel Brook which led to State Aid and two fine new bridges over Pelham Brook and a new road on the left bank.

In 1901 the Monroe bridge across the Deerfield was carried away and the present structure was built the following year. A big wind February 2, 1876 damaged seventeen barns and one house. John Browning's house and barn were consumed by fire three weeks later.

The Silk tragedy was recent enough for it to be remembered. Michael Silk, an old veteran of the Civil War, for many years made a living by cutting timber. He once built a log cabin near the spring at the southwestern base of Adams Mountain, but in later years he lived in a hut near Pelham Brook on the road to Zoar. Although a recluse and given to an occasional spree at North Adams, he was looked upon favorably as a hardworking wood-chopper with money laid by for a rainy day. Poor health overtook him in the last years of his life; and in February 1921, encouraged by the selectmen, he went to live with his brother Thomas in a lonely shack in Stephenstown, New York. Now Michael was eighty-one and his brother was seventy-five, yet within a day or two a dispute arose over some money and titles to woodlots held by Michael; and the brothers fought to a finish,—first with fists and then with sticks of hickory. Michael fell and expired. Thomas the survivor was short-

ly taken into custody, and after due trial was sent to prison, where he soon died.

Ambrose Potter had the first public-house (near where Henry Wright formerly lived) as early as 1780.* (Pardon Haynes, the old doctor, built the Wright house and the Brown-Potter house south of it about 1800). Ezra Tuttle kept an inn at the old center about 1806 and was followed by Thomas Riddell.** On the road east, the Langdons and others kept taverns. At Zoar, E. S. Hawks opened a tavern about 1812 in the ell of the Hawkes-Morrison house three-quarters of a mile east of Zoar station, which he continued for over 30 years. The ell was demolished in 1946. Then there was no public house until 1860, when H. M. Livermore opened an inn, store and post office, about where the talc mill was later located, but kept these only a few years.*** S. D. Negus, I. D. Hawks, J. C. Bryant, Albert Cressy, and George C. Miller have carried on merchandising at Zoar. At Hoosac Tunnel, the Hoosac Tunnel House flourished in the last of the stage coach days and while the tunnel was being built. Across the river in Florida until 1933 stood the Jenks & Rice Hotel, latterly used as a dwellinghouse. The writer remembers stopping there in 1894, when Landlord Rice was proprietor.

According to Beer's Atlas of Berkshire County, printed in 1876, but prepared before the opening of the Tunnel in 1875, it was called Rice's Hotel; and close to it on the west was the Engineers' Office. About 120 rods further up the road towards East Portal was Tower's Hotel, A. D. Tower, Proprietor.

*Dr. Haynes sometimes was called Captain. Henry Wright sold his farm in 1943. Examination of his deeds indicates the Ambrose Potter house on the same lot, probably the same site. One of the rooms of the present house is of older construction and may be part of the previous structure.

**Thomas Riddell is a witness on a deed dated February 1818.

***Midway between Zoar Station and Pelham Brook, between the highway and the railroad. The highway through Zoar formerly was nearer the river bank, where the railroad now is located.

CHAPTER XI

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

"Make your own sugar, and send not to the Indies for it."
Old Farmer's Almanack.

In this twentieth century with the ever increasing urban populations and the decline in the rural communities, it is difficult to realize the mad desire* for land one hundred and fifty years ago. A typical example of this is that of the Ballous** who left Richmond, New Hampshire, itself a small community, to take up land and clear the forests in that section which was then the western part of Rowe, and is now the township of Monroe. Our ancesters were tough as well as aggressive. The men could hew beams and lay stone-walls; the women could spin and weave and bring up large families.

The rise of the tide to New England hilltops seems to have reached the full about 1830 to 1845. In 1830 the population of Rowe was 716. In the election of 1816 there were 135 ballots cast. This number had increased to 138 in 1832; 149 in 1840; and to 162 in 1844, the high-water mark. (See Appendix B.)

Barber's Historical Collections, published in 1839 mentions four meeting houses in Rowe, and places the population at 688. In 1837 there were 302 Saxony, 1630 merino, and 364 of other kinds of sheep, producing wool to the value of $4,249.80.

Nason's Gazeteer of 1874 mentions a chair and a basket factory but describes the chief industries as "farming and

*William Porter (father of Veniah M. Porter) was reputed to be "land crazy," and in the words of his neighbors, tried to buy all the land that adjoined him.

**Nathan Bollou was the author's great-great-grandfather. His deed of purchase from Ebenezer Hayward is dated May 7, 1803.

lumbering." There were then 92 farms. "The number of sheep in 1865 was 1818 which in 1872 had fallen to 412." In 1934 there were 77 sheep of all kinds, 161 cows, 93 neat cattle, 55 horses and 6 swine. In 1956 there were 55 cows, 28 heifers, 24 horses, 4 sheep and 4 goats. The town had 109 dwelling-houses, three churches and seven schoolhouses in 1872. In 1934 there were 113 dwelling-houses, two churches and five schoolhouses of which but two were in full use, the Village and the East. In 1954 there were 163 dwelling-houses, two churches and one schoolhouse.

Before the advent of the railroad in 1868, and the completion of Hoosac Tunnel in 1875, communication with the outside world was difficult. The road to Boston led through Charlemont and Shelburne to Deerfield, and thence by way of Montague, Shutesbury, New Salem, Petersham, Templeton, Westminister, Lancaster, etc., or by way of Sunderland, Amherst, Shutesbury, New Salem, Petersham, Oakham, Rutland, Holden, Shrewsbury, Marlborough, etc., according to Ames' Almanac for 1765.

The "Fifth Massachusetts Turnpike" was built in 1800 through the towns of Athol, Orange, Wendell, Erving to Greenfield. The "Second Massachusetts Turnpike", or "Col. White's* Turnpike Road across Hoosack Mountain" as it was written in the Rowe records, was incorporated in 1797 to build from the west line of Charlemont to the west foot of Hoosac Mountain and became the route for several of the stages from Boston to Albany. The first wagon road over Hoosac Mountain was built probably in 1793, but there must have been a wagon road from Charlemont to Deerfield many years previous. Sheldon records the selection of a committee of Deerfield citizens in 1752 "to look out and mark a

*Col. Asaph White of Heath was a "man of remarkable executive and business ability," and "was connected with almost every enterprise of a public nature in this region." (From Historical Address of John H. Thompson at Heath Centennial 1885.)

Rhode to Charlemont, also to Hunt's town, and to clear the Roads of logs and bushes fit for a Riding Rhode."

Loammi Baldwin, in his time a high authority in construction engineering, advanced the idea of a canal running the length of Massachusetts and using the Millers and Deerfield Rivers. He would bore a tunnel through Hoosac Mountain at a cost of a million dollars! Surveys were made and plans suggested, but the railroad era dawned before a decision was made. In 1848 a charter was applied for to build a railroad from Greenfield to Williamstown by one of two routes, one by a tunnel through Hoosac Mountain, the other following the Deerfield through Readsboro, Stamford and Clarksburg. The state was not ready, however, and granted the petitioners permission to build west only to Shelburne Falls.

Western migration had serious effect on the agricultural districts in the East. The total population of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin and Iowa, in 1800 was 50,000. In 1820 it amounted to 792,000 and by 1840 it had increased to 2,967,000. Western soil is much richer and New England hill-towns have found it difficult to compete. Then too, the increase in mills and factories in the valley towns has drawn from Rowe's younger generations. North Adams, Shelburne Falls, Greenfield, Deerfield, Millers Falls, Athol, Orange, Northampton and Springfield, have become the homes of Rowe's sons and daughters.

One hundred and fifty years ago, Rowe was largely self-supporting and economically independent. Here was produced practically all the necessary food, wool for clothing, leather for shoes, lumber for building. Sugar was extracted from sugar maples. Salt and iron implements were purchased with the surplus produce. There was little cash and trade was a system of barter. (See Appendix C.)

As the town was far from the metropolis, modern inventions were slow to come into use. The cradle scythe, for instance, was invented in 1803 but it was not used in Rowe

until some years later. Nearly every part of the work of the farm except plowing, harrowing and drawing heavy loads, was done by hand, that is with tools handled by human muscles. Small grain was sown broadcast, reaped with a cradle, and threshed with a flail. Hay was mown with a scythe (often by several mowers advancing in echelon formation), raked and pitched by hand. The cast-iron plow was invented in 1797 but was not in general use in this country until 1825*. A list of farming tools in 1800 would probably include the clumsy plow with wrought-iron share, wooden mold-board, and heavy beam and handles; the wooden rake and wooden fork; the scythe, sickle and flail. It required great strength to use these primitive tools, and one often hears the opinion expressed nowadays that our grandfathers were stronger and tougher than men of the present generation. Yet we doubt if this would be admitted by any citizen of the present century who has hayed on a hot day in July and raced to the barn before a thunder shower, or has cut his season's supply of fire-wood and has buck-sawed it and piled it laboriously in the wood-shed. However, the portable power saw has come into use. The building of stone-walls is a thing of the past, with barbed-wire available at relatively low prices; and some of the old walls by the roadside have been used in making the foundations for the reconstructed highways, some of which have a bituminous surface.

The first mowing machine was patented in 1831 but did not come into general use for many years.** In the Beers' Atlas of Franklin County in 1871, James M. Ford of Rowe is put down as the agent for Patent Sugar Evaporators, "Totman's Horse Power and Wood Mill," and "Whittemore,

*The first cast-iron plows sold in Charlemont in 1824 by William Riddell. (Gazette and Courier, May 7, 1877.)

**Cyrus Ballou is credited with having purchased the first mowing machine in Rowe about 1870, called the "Meadow King."

Belcher and Company's Agricultural Implements." A few of Walter A. Wood's machines have come onto Rowe farms. These have been manufactured since 1851 in the neighboring towns of Hoosick Falls, N. Y. Western products including such makes as Adriance, Deering and McCormick, are also well known.

In the Atlas of 1871, E. E. Amidon is described as a "Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Hardware, Crockery, Women's and Children's Boots and Shoes, Kerosene Oil and all its Fixtures, and all goods usually found in a country store." George Browning is described as a "Harness Manufacturer," David Henry is a "Manufacturer and Dealer in Lumber, Flour, Feed and Meal;" and H. A. Kendrick is a "Manufacturer and Dealer in all kinds of Lumber, Chair Stock, Broom Handles, etc."

The railroad from Fitchburg to Greenfield (Vermont and Massachusetts R. R.) was opened in April 1849. In 1847 Rowe citizens first began to talk of a railroad up the Deerfield valley through Zoar. The Troy and Greenfield charter was granted in 1848 and the company organized the following year. The section from North Adams to the State Line, about six miles in length, was opened in 1859, and the section from the Tunnel to Greenfield in 1868. Rowe in common with her neighbors, had been asked to contribute to the expense of construction, but she declined. The Zoar station which was a scant four miles from the Rowe post office was really the port of entry and departure for the Romans (Rowe-mans), yet it was in the township of Charlemont.* Hoosac Tunnel Station, located a half mile from the Eastern Portal on the left bank of the Deerfield, is within the borders of Rowe.

*Zoar for years supported a station, a freight-house, and a telegrapher-station-agent combined. All are gone. All buildings were removed and it remained only a flag stop until the suspension of passenger service.

Hoosac Tunnel Station is also the southern terminus of the Hoosac Tunnel and Wilmington R. R. This road was chartered in December 1886 and acquired the Massachusetts portion of the line of the Deerfield River Co., and leased the Vermont portion.* On January 1, 1892 the Deerfield River Co., and the Deerfield Valley R. R. Co. were merged. The road in general followed the Deerfield River in a northerly direction to Wilmington, Vermont, a distance of 24½ miles, until the construction of Whitingham Dam, completed in 1925. Dec. 3, 1937 the Interstate Commerce Commission authorized the abandonment of 13 miles, the extension from Readsboro to Wilmington. The part in Massachusetts, some eight miles, is located entirely in Rowe, and there is a station at Monroe Bridge, about three miles from the Rowe post office. The original survey called for two other stations in Rowe, one to be called Heywood's at the foot of the slope beneath Pulpit Rock, and one to be called Logans, some two miles north of Hoosac Tunnel Station; but the traffic has never warranted their establishment. The gauge was three feet prior to 1912-13 when at considerable expense it was changed to the standard measure of four feet, eight and one-half inches, thereby affording greater facility in the handling of freight at Hoosac Tunnel.

One young fellow whose father owned a farm a short distance south of the present Baptist Church, desirous of attending a dance at the town hall and having no scruples against disobeying parental orders, walked to Zoar, rode by train to Hoosac Tunnel, thence by train to Monroe Bridge, and then walked up the hill to the Rowe town hall,—thus circumventing a distance of sixteen miles to reach his objective point which was a scant half-mile from home.

Intoxicating liquors at times have sapped the vitality of Rowe's economic progress. Rum had to be drunk on all occasions even when the meetinghouse frame was raised.

*Built in 1884 by the Newton Bros. of Holyoke and Readsboro.

Some men were repairing the roads and left a jug of rum on the wagon by the flat rock near the old centre, so that a mischievous boy consumed a large amount with fatal results. Hard cider has found its way into more than one cellar. But liquor has not always been confined to public occasions; and it was with full recognition of this fact that William A. Hicks, having given bonds, was appointed by the selectmen in 1864 an "agent to purchase Intoxicating Liquors and to sell the same at his dwelling House in the town of Rowe to be used in the Arts or for Medicinal, Chemical and Mechanical Purposes and no other." He received a salary of $15 for this service.

George Bennet is named as a blacksmith in 1781. Ebenezer Starr maintained a blacksmith shop near the southeast corner of the cross roads at the old centre, but with the flow of the tide to Factory Village or Slab City he moved his establishment down the hill. Peter and Philo Sibley and the latter's son Joseph later conducted such a thriving business that there were three forges necessary; and it was nothing exceptional to shoe in one day 16 horses and eight, ten and even twelve yokes of oxen, besides turning the shoes and nails. Farmers drove in from Florida, Monroe, Readsboro, Whitingham and Heath. The last regular blacksmith, John Richards, left town in 1910. Charles Newell in 1922 reopened the shop for part time work and built an adjoining store for retail merchandising.

Today, accumulated wealth usually comprises investment securities (stocks and bonds), or rented real estate. One hundred and twenty-five years ago both these forms of investment were rare; and the average young man when starting out in life, looked forward to the time when he could claim title to a large farm, consisting not alone of buildings and cattle, but of tilled acres. It was a comparatively simple matter to put up a house and barn, but it required years of effort to clear land and cultivate the soil. Witness the

assessed valuation in 1835 of the Adams farm, one of the best in Rowe.

1 house	$ 250	
315 acres of land	2000	
		$2250
2 oxen $60—24 cows $432		492
20 sheep $40—1 horse $65		105
4 swine $16		16
		$ 2863

The land here is valued at nearly three-quarters of the total. This, then, is the key to the early economic situation, the answer to the question as to why our ancesters moved up to these rocky hills to take up large tracts of land.

In the northern part of the town was the Gideon Langdon farm on the ancient (now deserted) road to Readsboro, which in 1835 was assessed as follows—

1 house—2 barns	$ 275	
150 acres of land	1550	
		$1825
2 oxen $70—10 cows $180	$250	
5 - 2 yr. olds $45—5 yearlings $25	70	
10 sheep $20—2 swine $10	30	
2 horses $100—1 colt $35	135	
		$ 485
		$2310

Gideon Langdon died in 1860 aged 81.

A considerable amount of timber has been cut on the Rowe hills and the statement has been heard that there is more money in allowing pasture land to grow up to pine trees. A Massachusetts farmer some years ago sold to a man operating a portable saw-mill some white pine which cut a million board feet. Instead of receiving $7000 which would have been a fair price (at $7 per thousand at that time) he accepted $1,200. In the future it is well to remember that advice can always be obtained from the State Forester at Boston.

The introduction of national prohibition it was hoped would permanently raise the price of apples, but there is no reason why Rowe farmers cannot reap some profits from apple raising, even without prohibition. Sugar maples yield a bountiful supply of sap which can profitably be exported in the form of syrup and sugar. (See Appendix H)

Sheep husbandry was once a thriving industry in Rowe. With Boston the chief wool market of this country and with an increasing demand in the east for mutton, increased production might be expected. The dog menace has been ever-present, but can be minimized by co-operation and by proper fencing. To be sure the severe winters necessitate extra provision for shelter and feed, but the winters are no severer than they were one hundred years ago.

The radical change in the economic picture—which might be called a Renaissance—began during the mid-century. The cash income per annum of some $70,000 in the shape of wages to Rowe citizens working at the Deerfield Glassine Company may have been the start. Improvement in roads, with a great transformation of the old road that descends some 700 feet in one short mile to Monroe Bridge, the establishment of a Volunteer Fire Department with fire-alarm and communication system, the increase in the Highway Department with the acquisition of two heavy trucks, a pick-up truck, road scraper, pay loader, snow plow attachments, and a sander to take care of winter ice and snow, and the improvements at the village school with play apparatus, all testify to the progressive attitude of the town fathers backed by the voters.

The annual report for 1957 shows 18 street lights, and expenditures for Highway Construction and Maintenance of $54,692; for Schools, operation, maintenance, transportation and tuition, $21,947; and for the Fire Department, $2,134.

CHAPTER XII

ELECTRIC POWER FROM THE ATOM

With 6% of the population, the U.S.A. has 36% of the world's electric power. Most of our electric power is produced by heat which now comes from burning coal, oil or gas, and 20.3% is hydro-electric power. The fire produces steam in the teakettle, the steam turns a fan which spins a magnet. As the magnet spins, invisible lines of magnetic force cut across the turns of wire in the coils, which generate electric current that can be transmitted through copper wires. In a power plant, the fire is the furnace, the teakettle is the boiler, the fan is the turbine, the magnet and coils are the generator. Heat from atomic fuel such as uranium can be substituted for the heat from the coal, gas or oil by fission, or splitting the atom in a reactor instead of a furnace.

Harnessing atomic energy has some similarities with controlling electricity. When man learned that electricity was the secret of lightning's destructive power, he did not abandon hope of controlling it. In like manner atomic energy and radioactivity go together, but the latter can be fully controlled. At present, the cost of generating electricity with atomic fuel is higher than with conventional fuels, but it is expected that heat from atomic fuel will eventually cost less.

In April 1955, Rowe was startled by the public announcement that the Yankee Atomic Electric Company had purchased 1400 acres near Sherman's Station on the Deerfield and planned to erect a multi-million dollar atomic power plant. The figure of $35,000,000 was given as a preliminary estimate which is five times the total assessed valuation of the town. Forthwith the "By-Laws Committee" speeded action in presenting to the voters a comprehensive set of By-Laws "designed to foster an orderly adjustment to possible changes

which our community might undergo as a result of the new plant".

Briefly, the Yankee company was formed in 1954 by 12 New England electric utilities serving 90% of New England who grouped together to finance and build a 134,000 kilowatt atomic power plant under the Atomic Energy Commission's Power Demonstration Reaction Program. The site selected included the so-called Philo Sibley and Noyes Wheeler farms and was based on the proximity to a large supply of cooling water and to an existing high voltage transmission line.

The plant will resemble a standard steam-electric station except for the boiler equipment. This will be a pressurized water reactor contained in a large 125-foot steel sphere set on 8 reinforced concrete columns. Inside is the actual reactor steam-generator with controls, auxiliaries and heat exchanges. The "heart" of the reactor is the cylindrical core about 6 feet in diameter and 8 feet tall, which will stand in a water-filled pressure vessel 9 feet in diameter and 30 feet high with steel walls over 8 inches in thickness. The core contains 76 fuel assemblies made up of over 20,000 stainless steel tubes, pencil-size eight feet in length, each tube filled with 150 uranium pellets. The heat conveyed by the circulating water equals that of a steam boiler 50 times the size of this 6 x 8 foot cylinder. Work was started in 1957 and should require three years to complete.*

*As of June 1960 construction is on schedule, and it is expected that the plant will soon be producing electric power. The total cost is now estimated at $57,000,000.

Appendix A.

The history of Monroe could well fill a small volume by itself and only a brief sketch can be inserted here. Daniel Canedy of Colrain is said to have been the first settler in that part of Rowe which lay west of the Deerfield. He brought his family about the year 1800, and was soon followed by Ebenezer Hayward,* Samuel and Daniel Gore and three Ballou brothers, David, Benjamin and Nathan. David Ballou was the first of the brothers to take up land and we find his name in the seating of the meetinghouse in 1802. In 1804 we find David Ballou on the jury list for the "Inferior Court," but no mention is made of the Gores or Daniel Canedy, who lived in the unincorporated section called "The Gore." The latter died in 1826 at the age of 55 and Daniel Gore died in 1859 leaving a number of sons,—Hiram, Lowell, Moses, Asahel and Luther.

Difficulty of travel was experienced at an early date and in 1801 the inhabitants petitioned the town of Rowe to "set off the land that lies west of Deerfield in this Town to be annexed to a gore of land adjoining to it." The town acquiesced provided the General Court allowed it, but it was not to be just yet. In October 1803 the town voted "that the inhabitants of the Town west of Deerfield River, be exempt from paying their School and Highway Taxes and that they have the privilege of Schooling and working out their own money in their own neighborhood." From 1804 to 1822 a Ballou was on the school committee, David, Nathan, Stephen or Maturin, the sons of Nathan.

The petition in December 1820 to the General Court asking for incorporation recites that the part of Rowe west of the Deerfield River "is commonly impassable so as to cause the settlers in the west part to go around by the way of Readsboro and Whitingham, Vt. to get to the center of the

*Ebenezer Hayward had daughters born in Rowe in December 1801, and January 1804.

town—and contains about 1500 acres and 14 families. The unincorporated part contains 4500 acres and 15 families." The round-about way referred to, undoubtedly was the road from the "four-corners" to South Readsboro, thence across the river near Sherman's,* and up the road to Rowe from "Lime Hollow."

December 24, 1821, the town voted to allow the land west of the river to be set off, and February 21, 1822 the town of Monroe was incorporated, taking the name of President James Monroe.

Appendix B.

In 1832 Rev. Preserved Smith was assessed on the following property:—

1 House and Barn	$150		
25 Acres Land	450	$600	
1 Horse and colt	42		
1 Cow	20		
Money at interest	1200	1262	
		$ 1862	Tax—$75.21

It would be interesting to know where he had his money at interest. Remember that his annual salary was but $300.

The Census reports show the population of Rowe as follows:—

1790—443	1870—581	1920—333
1800—575	1875—661	1925—292
1810—839	1880—502	1930—298
1820—851	1885—582	1935—277
1830—716	1890—541	1940—233
1840—703	1895—498	1945—176
1850—659	1900—549	1950—199
1855—601	1905—533	1955—207
1860—619	1910—456	1960—230
1865—563	1915—424	

*Sherman's Bridge was removed when the N. E. Power Co. development was completed above Monroe Bridge in 1925-1926. Sherman's Station began operations in February 1927 with a capacity of 6,000 K.V.A.

On Feb. 21, 1822 Monroe was incorporated and of course this resulted in a loss to Rowe. The population of Monroe in 1830 was 265; in 1840, 282; in 1850, 254; which, if allowance is made for the deductions from Rowe, would show the largest aggregate for Rowe between 1830 and 1850. The high mark for Heath was 1199 in 1830.

Appendix C.

A petition dated January 14, 1780 was sent to the General Court seeking a remission of the fine of £600, and for an abatement of taxes. The petition set forth that the town was utterly unable to raise the sums "repeatedly required" of it; that of the 10,000 acres in that plantation, only 7,000 were habitable, not a tenth part of which was under any kind of improvement; that ten years before (1770), there were but eight families in the place which was increased to twenty-eight families when the war began,—most of which were so poor as to be unable to pay the small cost of lands to settle on; that those who had removed thither since the war began were such as had been reduced from comfortable livings, to the necessity of earning, by hard labor, on small tracts of wild land, the means of purchasing supplies to be brought from a distance. That the earlier settlers were just beginning to make improvements when the war broke out, and being, to a man, engaged in the popular cause, and more than ordinarily "exposed unto alarms," even in seed-time and harvest-time, they had been obliged to purchase more than half of their provisions, at a distance of from ten to thirty miles, at enormous prices, for which their improvements were not sufficient to yield them an equivalent; that, through all their adversities, they had "supported the gospel," which they could not continue to do if their burdens should be increased; that, in respect to the fine of £600, they had sent only one of the two men required, because, though the rate was one man for 36½ ratable polls, they

(as they had not more than 48 polls at the time of requisition) thought the sending of one man, a sufficient compliance; in which the superintendent, who accepted their man, concurred; that they had nothing to sell wherewith to procure money,—they being above one hunred miles from any market, and obliged to pay enormous prices for salt and other necessaries ("even the price of seven bushels of rye for a bushel of salt"); that, being a new plantation, they within a few years had been obliged to build, through the woods, all the roads in the vicinity, and even roads to other adjoining places several miles distant, and to keep these roads in repair at their own expense, which required, annually the average labor of ten days per man; notwithstanding which, the country was so rugged that it required four good oxen, and at least the greater part of one day, "to convey half a ton of burthen, in our best road, for the distance of five or six miles from this place," and that by this means only could they transport such necessaries of life as they purchased at a distance.* That they had been obliged to borrow money to pay the bounties and travel of soldiers, and to make good the depreciation of the currency, they having no money of their own.

This is an interesting picture of life in the old plantation days with all its hardships. It may be of interest to know that the General Court remitted the £600 fine and abated one third of the taxes. The "best road" was probably that between the meetinghouse and Charlemont which led over the mountain, the route known as Norton's Trail.

*There were about 30 families in Charlemont in 1766 (Vol. 4, p. 1046 Acts and Resolves), and about 60 families in 1779 (Vol. 5, p. 1251 Acts and Resolves).

Appendix D.

FULHAM GRANT

On June 11, 1772 the General Court passed the following resolutions,—

"that there be granted to Francis Fullam his Heirs and assigns five hundred acres of Land to be laid out in an unappropriated tract of Land in the western part of the Province adjoining to ten thousand acres granted to Cornelius Jones, called Merrifield, to satisfy his proportion of the Grant in his Petition mentioned, which he lost by the runing Newhampshire line, and that the Petitioner at his own cost cause the same to be laid out by skilful Surveyor and Chainmen under oath, and return a plan of the same to this Court for acceptance within twelve months."

The petition was made by Francis Fullam (Fulham) of Fitchburg (Turkey Hills) "in lieu of his proportion of a Township formerly granted to the Soldiers under Command of Capt. John Lovewell, which fell into Newhampshire."

Beginning at the Southwest corner of "Jones's Grant," so-called.

W	6°N	197 rods	
S	6°W	150 "	
E	6°S	250 "	
S	6°W	40 "	
E	6°S	80 "	
S	6°W	80 "	
E	6°S	100 "	
N	6°E	270 "	to south line of Jones's Grant
W	6°N	240 "	on said line.

The final ratification was made March 5, 1773.

Appendix E.

GREEN AND WALKER GRANT

On December 8, 1741 the General Court granted a tract comprising 8575 acres "northwest of Deerfield," which today represents the greater part of the town of Heath, to Joseph Green, Isaac Walker, Byfield Lyde, and John Green. In 1751 Joseph Green, Isaac Walker and Thomas Bulfinch,

petitioned for another tract to comprise "6000 acres west of a tract of 8575 acres owned by them in order to compleat a Settlement they propose to make," but nothing ever came of it; and it was reserved for Cornelius Jones in 1762 to purchase these 6000 acres with 4000 more.

Green and Walker, both of Boston, were co-partners in the mercantile business under the style of Green & Walker. They acquired ownership of extensive tracts of land in various parts of the Province.

BULLOCK'S GRANT

In April 1771 there was granted to William Bullock some six square miles comprising roughly the present town of Savoy and an irregular tract north of this which included a narrow strip in Florida adjoining the Bernardstown Grant on the east and including the Deerfield River at the Great Bend, with a few acres of Rowe, and in Monroe bordering the Bernardstown Grant on the north.

Appendix F.

An interesting document in the State Archives is the assessors' return of the Plantation of Myrifield for 1784, compiled by Henry Willson and Archibald Thomas, Assessors. They rated the property as follows,—

Improved Lands		
Upland mowing	40	shillings per acre
Meadow mowing	20	" " "
Pastering and tillage	40	" " "
Unimproved Land	6	shillings, 8 pence per acre
Unimprovable Land	1	shilling per acre
Dwelling Houses	6	pounds each
Barns	4	" "
Mills	5	" "
Horses	6	" "
Oxen	8	" "
Cows	3	" "
2 year olds	2	" "
1 year old	1	" "
Sheep	3	shillings each
Swine	20	" "

There were but nine dwelling houses and the assessors stated that the "Remainder are Loghuts—which in the year 1780 were valued at 20/ each, since which they are so crumbled Down, that they have been not Rated since."

The return shows 88 polls, of which number 77 were "ratable," nine dwelling houses, 18 barns, two mills, 93 acres of "tillage of land," 74 acres of "English and Upland mowing," 210 acres of Fresh-meadow and newly-cleared mowing land, 206 acres of pasturage, 5679 acres of unimproved and 3724 acres of unimprovable land, 38 horses, 3 two-year old colts, 3 one-year old colts, 44 oxen, 27 neat cattle three-year old, 46 two-years old, and 74 one-year old, 89 cows four years old or more, 230 sheep, and 98 swine.

Following are the names of the tax-payers in 1784, the year before incorporation.

Moses Streeter
Nathaniel Goodspeed
Ebenezer Ingersol
Eldad Corbet
Jonathan Marsh
Abner Chapin
Joseph Steel
Archibald Thomas
Joseph Thomas
Nathan Wheeler
Ambrose Potter
Darius Barr
Daniel McCoon
Nathan Foster
John Hibbert
Shubael Nash
John McNitt
Jonas Gleason
Consider Brown
Noah Brown
Richard Mason
Daniel McAllester
Ephraim Hill
Benj. Shumway
Issac Lankton
Isaac W. Clary
Jude Foster
Matthew Barr
Obed Foote
Eli Towne
Phebe Howard, Guardn
Henry Willson, Jr.
Paul Thayer
Amos Gleason
William Taylor
Oliver Wilder
Nathan Wood
Aaron Gleason, Jr.
Henry Gleason
Aaron Gleason
Jonathan Gleason
Gideon Chapin
Ellet Makepeace
Gad Chapin
Shadrach Chapin
Charles Handy
David Barr
Daniel Gleason
Standish Foster
Richard Ingersol
Joseph Nash
William Steel
Jonathan White
Nathaniel Merrill
Benj. Brown
Eli Colton
James Merril
Nathaniel Merril, Jr.

Humphrey Taylor	David Weer
Stephen Gleason	William Weer
Michael Willson	Timothy Knowton
Isaac Cummings	Asa Foster
Henry Willson	Asa Gleason
Nathaniel Corbet	Stephen Brown
Moses Rogers	Joel Hill
John Adams	Zenas Nash
Mr. Jones	Warren Willson

The Direct Tax made by the State in October 1798, (the original is in the library of the N. E. Historic & Genealogical Society) shows that Rowe then had 31 dwelling houses, which figure compares with nine in 1780.

Appendix G.

THE MOHAWK TRAIL

A splendid paper was read before the Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association at Deerfield, Sept. 8, 1909, by Judge John A. Aiken (See P.V.M.A. Proceedings), which definitely locates the Indian trail between Williamstown and Deerfield, some forty miles. A portion on the eastern end of Hoosac Mountain, along the ridge which ends with Todd Mountain and on the southerly slopes of the latter, is easily discernible today, a narrow, well-worn path. The writer has spent many hours with Judge Aiken on Hoosac Mountain examining this trail and also the early roads over the mountain; and, as a result, felt qualified to read a paper in 1920 before the Greenfield Historical Society on the subject. The writer's additional information to Judge Aiken's has to do with a short portion near the confluence of Cold River and the Deerfield. The late Miss Augusta Hawks pointed it out in 1917. Her grandfather Samuel Hawks moved from Deerfield to Charlemont in 1811, having purchased the land from the mouth of Cold River as far west as "Rice's Flats." He built near the confluence a small house with sanded window glasses and loop-holes under the eaves. He died in 1847, aged 89, and his son Edward (born 1810), built the

present red house, a few rods from the old one. He often showed his daughter the eastern end of the trail and she when a girl drove cattle over it. Near the confluence is "Chestnut Flat," an open mowing, and below and beyond this is the old Indian camp-site, where stone relics have been found. The trail led directly over (not around) the knoll just to the east of the highest point and past Cold Spring to Indian Spring, from which point it is described by Judge Aiken.

Appendix H.

MAPLE SUGAR

Indians taught the first New England settlers to make maple sugar, and for many years thereafter it was used as a substitute for imported cane sugar. Today pure maple syrup and maple sugar are luxuries. Maple sap is a thin watery liquid with a faintly sweet taste. A tree will yield from 10 to 20 gallons of sap, and it requires 25 to 50 gallons of sap to produce a gallon of syrup. The sap must be collected once a day, and carried to the sugar house where it is boiled down in huge metal pans. To prevent souring, quick evaporation is essential at a temperature hot enough for boiling without scorching. When it weighs eleven pounds to the gallon, it is drawn off, filtered, and poured into cans. Further boiling brings it to the concentrated sugar stage. Warm days and cool nights in late February and March make the sap flow; but if warm weather arrives too soon or remains too long, and the nights are not cold, the crop is impaired. An early thaw followed by freezing weather also has adverse effect. Late runs of sap produce a "buddy" taste.

Then come the "sugarin'-off" parties for young and old—hot syrup poured on snow with an occasional pickle and water-cracker—to neutralize the sweetness. Enterprising

citizens of Charlemont used to tap a snow-bank in a shaded ravine on the north side of Mt. Peak as late in the season as the Fourth of July, and to serve to passing autoists for 50 cents all one could consume.

Appendix I.

HOOSAC TUNNEL

First proposed (for canal)	— 1819
Chartered	— 1848
Commenced	— 1851
Headings met	— Nov. 27, 1874
Completed	— 1875
First train	— Feb. 9, 1875
First freight	— April 5, 1875
First passenger	— Oct. 13, 1875
First electric train	— May 27, 1911
Last electric train	— Aug. 23, 1946
Last passenger train	— Nov. 30, 1958

Total cost of construction $14,000,000

Length — 25,031 ft. (4¾ miles)

Appendix J.

SELECTMEN OF ROWE 1785 — 1960

1785 William Taylor, Isaac Langdon & Moses Streeter
1786 William Taylor, Abner Chapin & John Wells
1787 Archibald Thomas, Michael & Jonas Gleason
1788 Archibald Thomas, John Hibbard & Jonas Gleason
1789 Jonathan White, John Wells & Jonas Gleason
1790 Jonathan White, John Wells & Thaddous Merrill
1791 William Taylor, John Wells & Thaddous Merrill
1792 Nathan Foster, Archibald Thomas & Henry Wilson
1793 Nathan Foster, Noah Brown & Henry Wilson
1794 Nathan Foster, Noah Brown & William Taylor

1795 Nathan Foster, Zebulon Benton & William Taylor
1796 Pardon Haynes, Abner Chapin & William Taylor
1797 Nathan Foster, Jonas Gleason & Samuel Brown
1798 William Taylor, Noah Brown & Zebulon Benton
1799 Jonas Gleason, Archibald Thomas & John Hibbard
1800 Jonas Gleason, William Taylor & Noah Brown
1801 John Wells, William Taylor & Noah Brown
1802 Titus Todd, William Taylor & Nathan Foster
1803 Titus Todd, Calab Blakslee & Nathan Foster
1804 Titus Todd, Moses Streeter & Nathan Foster
1805 John Wells, William Taylor & James Brown
1806 Jonas Gleason, William Taylor & James Brown
1807 Josiah Carpenter, William Taylor & John Cheney
1808 Josiah Carpenter, William Taylor & Noah Brown
1809 Pardon Haynes, William Taylor & Noah Brown
1810 John Wells, John Cheney & John Thomas
1811 John Wells, Josiah Carpenter & John Thomas
1812 Jediah Bassett, Josiah Carpenter & John Thomas
1813 John Wells, Josiah Carpenter & John Thomas
1814 Sylvester Hart, Josiah Carpenter & John Thomas
1815 James Brown, Jesse Gleason & John Thomas
1816 -
1818 Josiah Carpenter, Jesse Gleason & Isaac Pierpont
1819 John Thomas, Ebenezer Merrill & Noah Wells
1820 Jesse Gleason, Ebenezer Merrill & James Brown
1821 -
1823 Noah Wells, Ebenezer Merrill & John Thomas
1824 James Brown, Isaac Pierpont & John Thomas
1825 Noah Wells, Apollo Carpenter & Jedidiah Barrett
1826 -
1328 Noah Wells, William Taylor, Jr. & Jedediah Barrett
1829 Isaac Pierpont, Ebenezer Merrill & Jedediah Barrett
1830 Isaac Pierpont, Samuel Reed & Jedidiah Barrett
1831 Isaac Pierpont, Samuel Reed & Ebenezer Merrill
1832 Obed Peck, Samuel Reed & Eliza Hibbard
1833 John Thomas, James Brown & Moses Gleason

1834 Samuel H. Reed, Elishia Brown & Robert L. Bishop
1835 Samuel H. Reed, Solomon Amidon, Jr. & Robert L. Bishop
1836 James Brown, Isaac Pierpont & Samuel Hall
1837 John Thomas, Ebenezer Starr & James Ford
1838 William Taylor, Ebenezer Starr & Dexter W. Brown
1839 Samuel Hall, Ebenezer Starr & Dexter W. Brown
1840 John Thomas, Alonzo Hibbard & Aruna Ide
1841 Dexter W. Brown, Alanson Hibbard & Arunah Ide
1842 Solamon Amidon, Jr., Alonso Hibbard & Arunah Ide
1843 Alanson Hibbard, Ebenezer Starr & Noah Wells
1844 William Taylor, Ebenezer Starr & John A. Winslow
1845 Samuel H. Reed, Asa Kendrick & Thomas Scott
1846 Samuel H. Reed, Elias Keith & Thomas Scott
1847 Ebenezer Starr, Elias Keith & Dwight H. Hix
1848 Ebenezer Starr, Elias Keith & Arad Hall
1849 E. Hawks Stanford, Elias Keith & Arad Hall
1850 Solamon Amidon, Chauncy Pierpont & Horace Browning
1851 Elias Keith, Hezekiah Brown & Arad Hall
1852 Elias Keith, Hezekiah Brown & Arad Hall
1853 Elias Keith, John Ballou & William Porter
1854 Elias Keith, John Ballou & Arad Hall
1855 -
1856 Elias Keith, John Ballou & Lyman Sears
1857 Daniel Gale, William H. Stanford & Ansel Bullard
1858 -
1859 Daniel Gale, William H. Stanford & Elias Keith
1860 Daniel Gale, William H. Stanford & Charles Demons
1861 John Ballou, William H. Stanford & Charles Demons
1862 Samuel P. Everett, William H. Stanford & E. H. Stanford
1863 John Ballou, V. M. Porter & Elias Keith
1864 Lyman Sears, Lorenzo S. Blakslee & Elias Keith
1865 Charles Demons, Lorenzo S. Blakslee & John Ballou
1866 Charles Demons, John Ballou & Lorenzo S. Blakslee
1867 -

1868 Cyrus Ballou, Samuel P. Everett & John Ballou
1869 Jason C. Rice, H. A. Kendrick & John Ballou
1870 -
1871 Elias Keith, William Bolton & John Ballou
1872 Elias Keith, Ephriam Truesdell & John Ballou
1873 V. M. Porter, Ezra Bemis & Cyrus Ballou
1874 -
1875 V. M. Porter, Lorenzo S. Blakeslee & Peter J. Streeter
1876 -
1877 V. M. Porter, Lorenzo S. Blakeslee & Lester Smith
1878 V. M. Porter, Lorenzo S. Blakeslee & Noyes Wheeler
1879 V. M. Porter, J. Herbert Starr & Noyes Wheeler
1880 V. M. Porter, J. Herbert Starr & Horace A. Smith
1881 V. M. Porter, Peter J. Streeter & Frank C. Haynes
1882 V. M. Porter, J. Herbert Starr & Charles Demons
1883 Edward Wright, Samuel Woffenden & Russel J. Smith
1884 V. M. Porter, Samuel Woffenden & Edward Wright
1885 -
1886 Edward Wright, C. C. Wheaton & Charles B. Newell
1887 -
1888 Edward Wright, Johnathen G. Davenport & James H. Starr
1889 J. Frank Brown, Johnathen G. Davenport & Jude S. Tuttle
1890 Charles B. Newell, Johnathen G. Davenport & Jude S. Tuttle
1891 J. Frank Brown, Johnathen G. Davenport & Jude S. Tuttle
1892 -
1893 J. Frank Brown, Johnathen G. Davenport & Jude S. Tuttle
1894 Fred W. Newell, Johnathen G. Davenport & Samuel Woffenden
1895 Jude S. Tuttle, Johnathen G. Davenport & Horace A. Smith
1396 J. Frank Brown, Johnathen G. Davenport & Perry P. Chilcott

1897 Albert Veber, Johnathen G. Davenport & Samuel Woffenden
1898 Albert Veber, Johnathen G. Davenport & Abbott L. White
1899 -
1900 Jude S. Tuttle, Johnathen G. Davenport & Samuel Woffenden
1901 Dennis Kiley, Johnathen G. Davenport & Abbott L. White
1902 Jude S. Tuttle, Henry D. Wright & Samuel Woffenden
1903 Roscoe R. Fisk, Henry D. Wright & Johnathen G. Davenport
1904 Roscoe R. Fisk, Henry D. Wright & Samuel Woffenden
1905 Fred E. Stone, Henry D. Wright & Johnathen G. Davenport
1906 -
1907 Samuel Woffenden, Henry D. Wright & Johnathen G. Davenport
1908 Henry D. Wright, Albert Veber & Johnathen G. Davenport
1909 Abbott L. White, Samuel Woffenden & Charles Scott
1910 Henry D. Wright, Emory B. Sibley & Charles Scott
1911 Henry D. Wright, Emory B. Sibley & Adelbert F. Truesdell
1912 Benjamin T. Henry, John W. Davenport & Adelbert F. Truesdell
1913 Benjamin T. Henry, George Canedy & Adelbert F. Truesdell
1914 -
1915 Grant R. Hartshorn, Edward M. Upton & George E. Stanford
1916 Grant R. Hartshorn, John W. Davenport & George E. Stanford
1917 -
1918 Grant R. Hartshorn, John W. Davenport & Willie L. Shumway
1919 -

1923 Grant R. Hartshorn, John W. Davenport & George A. Rice
1924 Grant R. Hartshorn, John W. Davenport & Myron A. Newton
1925 Grant R. Hartshorn, John W. Davenport & Adelbert F. Truesdell
1926 Abbott L. White, Myron A. Newton & Roy J. Holden
1927 Abbott L. White, John W. Davenport & Roy J. Holden
1928 -
1931 Grant R. Hartshorn, John W. Davenport & Roy J. Holden
1932 -
1934 Henry D. Wright, Elbert C. Perry & Edward C. Henderson
1935 -
1938 Grant R. Hartshorn, Charles L. Newell & Edward C. Henderson
1939 Grant R. Hartshorn, Gerald A. Truesdell & Edward C. Henderson
1940 Henry D. Wright, Gerald A. Truesdell & John F. Woffenden
1941 Henry D. Wright, Howard N. Sibley & John F. Woffenden
1942 Henry D. Wright, Howard N. Sibley & Chandler C. Shumway
1943 -
1944 Gerald A. Truesdell, Alfred M. Rice & William C. Baldrachi
1945 Gerald S. Truesdell, John F. Woffenden & William C. Baldrachi
1946 Gerald A. Truesdell, Richard E. Shumway & William C. Baldrachi
1947 Gerald A. Truesdell, Samuel E. Pearson & William C. Baldrachi
1948 Ellsworth W. Veber, Samuel E. Pearson & William C. Baldrachi
1949 -
1951 Ellsworth W. Veber, John E. Bond & William C. Baldrachi

1952 John H. Williams, Jr. & Frederick J. Bjork
1953 John H. Williams, Jr., Edward C. Henderson & J. Henry Stanford
1954 -
1959 John H. Williams, Jr., Edward C. Henderson & J. Henry Stanford
1960 John H. Williams, Jr., Edward C. Henderson, Giulio C. Andognini, Jr.

Appendix K

PRINTING IN ROWE

The 1954 Annual Report was printed in Rowe by the Cummington Press, lately moved here, and each sheet was run off by hand on a Washington Press, essentially the same instrument used by printers in Colonial days. The typefaces were Poliphilus and Caslon, set in Rowe by hand and in North Adams on the monotype of Elder Printing Co.

It was hoped that this third edition of the History would be so handled, but through the death in an automobile accident of an associate, our poet-printer, Harry Duncan, felt obligated to close his small plant and leave for a teaching position at Iowa State in Iowa City.